

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Second Sunday After Epiphany January 14, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Kelly Shakely and Tom Hollefreund - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Benedictus" Rowley
*Processional Hymn No. 43 "When morning gilds the skies"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O God, you gave us a light for our lives, but too often we still are groping in the dark. Our lives should be a reflection of that Light, but instead we are casting shadows of doubt. Keep us from those things which tend to shake our faith. Help us to shine forth wherever we are to a world that badly needs The Light. Take from us all of our sin, cleanse us, and make us whole, through Christ our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Duet: "Getting Used to the Family of God" Gaither
Sung by Nancy and Lloyd Link
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Near to the Heart of God"
*Acolyte Presentation
Anthem: "Give Me A Faith" Bitgood
Cyndie & Rob Sybert and the Chancel Choir
Scripture Habakkuk 1
Sermon: "THE PERPETUAL PERPLEXING QUESTION"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 474 "I've found a Friend"

*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Postlude:

"The Improvisations"

----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been given by Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Fleegeer in memory of "Loved Ones"

Serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder, John Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Deacon and Mrs. Harry Burns will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Pauline Fencil and Beth Burns.

The attendance last Sunday was 171.

> Hospitalized: Mrs. Bessie Hampton, Mrs. Kenneth Weitzel, Mrs. Paul Ritter, Mrs. Winifred Johnston.

Tonight - 6 - 7 P.M. - Junior High Fellowship (Grades 6th - 8th)

Tonight - 7-9 P.M. - Youth Fellowship.

> Today is the last day to turn in your slips for Hoagie Sales for the ARC Class. They will be delivered by the person who sold them to you on Thursday - Jan. 18.

Wed. - 6-7 P.M. Youth Choir practice.

Wed. - 7:00 P.M. - Chancel Choir

Wed. - 7:30 - Golden Circle Meeting

Thurs. - 11:00 - Mary Martha Circle Anniversary

Birthday Party - Meet at the Holiday Inn Parking Lot.

> The Bible Readings have not come in as yet - ~~if they are not here by this week coming we will send the Newsletter out anyway.~~ ARE HERE & WILL SEND.

> New Members will be received on Jan. 21st.

Mr. Wilmer Pfabe is home now and would like to thank everyone who sent cards, prayers and well wishes.

Tuesday - 7:00 - Bible Study

Those receiving Acolyte Pins today are: Robin Knauer, David Knauer, and Tim Fry. *Tom Hollefreund*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts Thursday

Jan. 18th. The Schedule is posted in the Narthex.

The Service here at St. Paul's Jan. 23 - Tues. - 7:30 A.M.

> Slips are in Pew Racks - if you want to make nominations.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Requiem Observance Sunday January 7, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Kelly Shakely and Tom Hollefreund

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude Flor Peeters
*Processional Hymn No. 124 "Light of the world"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O thou God of holy love, we
acknowledge that at the beginning of this year our lives
do not stand before Thee as a book unwritten. Much that
we shall do has been spelled out already, even before the
year has begun. Inscribed deep within are old habits
and familiar behaviour patterns. We know that these
in large part will write for us the history of this
coming year. Cause us to be aware of thy forgiving
grace, and when we have written a life page full of the
errors of our misdeeds, help us to acknowledge ourselves
for what we are, and to seek thy love; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrle
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Requiem Observance and Prayer
James J. Stewart, Roy D. Pflugh, Nellie E. Davis,
Helen Mary Hollefreund, Harry A. Klinger,
Mrs. Clarence Shick, Shirley Donald Zeigler,
Louis Zubik, Earl W. Wogan, Clara Irene Shakely.

Friends: Lawson D. Hindman, Edward H. King,
Patricia Jean Eakin.
Hymn No. 418 "For all the saints who from their
labors rest"

Offering
Offertory "Voluntary" Stanley
Anthem: "Create in me a Clean Heart O God" Mueller
Sung by Karen Maloney, Rob Sybert and the Chancel Choir.
Scripture: Isaiah 42: 1-9
Sermon: "DREAM ALONG WITH ME"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 299 "Lead on, O King eternal!"
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen

*Postlude: "The Improvisations"

*Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
The Guy Armstrong Family in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Allen Botacchi, Dan Bosko,
Robert Knauer, and Charles Penar.
Elder and Mrs. Mike Nazaruk will greet the Congregation
at the door this morning.
The attendance Christmas Eve - 198: Dec. 31 - 191.
Nursery will be provided today by Cheryl Altemus, Lori
Zavacky and Debora Johnston.
➤ Hospitalized: Miss Florence Shakely, Mrs. Winifred
Johnston and Mrs. Bessie Hampton.
➤ Our Sincere Sympathy to Family and Friends of Mr.
Arthur Covert who passed away on Wednesday.
➤ New Members will be received on Jan. 21st.
Please check your church statements and let Bea Tait
know if there is a discrepancy on your statement
before it is published in the year book.
All reports for the year book must be in by Monday
January 8th.
➤ TONIGHT - 7:00 - Epiphany (12th Night) Service.
Nominations for Elders and Deacons. Please place slips
in offering plate. Nominate any member and you do not
need permission of person to do so. We will contact
those nominated to take part in training program.
➤ Bible Study - 7:00 Tuesday.
➤ ARC Hoagie Sale - get your orders in by Jan. 14th -
Day of Sale Jan. 18 - Call Evie Dellen or Betty Carney.

"Dream Along With Me"
Scripture: Isa. 42:1-9; Text: Isa 42:9

Shakespeare: "WE R SUCH STUF AS DREAMS R MADE ON, & OUR
LITL LIF IS ROUNDED WITH SLEEP" The Tempest

All hav dreams & sum momentary, but othr stay long tim
erry Como=Dream Along With Me & think mortals only
Hav ever considr G dream, dream 4 mankind?

His Dr 4 man 2B made rt B4 Him & 2do mus act dif way
Scrip AM examp of this,

vs 1=Servant set 4th; this prom of 1 in futr set rt

Jews with othr reulers & kingdoms

Vss 2-4=qualifs & actions of peaceful person

Vss 5-6=G himself speak 2this serv & He 2do things

as G outlin in vs 7, & remind Glory Blong 2 G=vs 8

But G want sho luv & concern & giv assur vs 9a

G want 2encourag & lift spirits say=vs 9b

G then share dreams with them=vs 9c

Thez drs revel by G, but in own time & place

4 bout 7long centurys peop Is dr dream G giv 2them

Mos giv up hope dr fulfil

Jew relig reach nu low & leadship divid 2 group

Phars=homemade relig, laws which mak G hard, un4giv

Sadds=Miracs, angel, resur fairy tales & make Bliev

Ldrs act madmen, put peop 2deth smallest reason

Herod make plan 2hav peop kil on his deth=Natl morn

Had membs fam kil, was 2kil babies 2destroy Xp

Romans=barbarians: Pilat stol Temp funds, Galilee Jew

killed during worship

Jerus on skids finance: unemploy, crime out proport

Beggars starv line sts, not jus lame, blind; idl Youth

form gangs, delinquency on increase

at among al thez peop in Jeru liv old man nevr

stop dr; evn tho saw nation crumb all bout he Bliev

dr G giv 2Jacob as he lay die

He bles sons & tol Judah wud hav 1descend incomp king

& peop flock 2Him

Old man Jeru tol no C deth til C L's Anointe=Xp &

this revel 2B made by H Sp

Simeon wait & watch & mov H Sp 2go 2Temp

Whilther yng coup cum with present & hardly any1 not

bcuz merely part teeming crowd ther

Woman cary bundl; no wrap pretty paper, fancy ribbon,

insted, wrap blanket & strang enuf hand bundl 2Simeon

As Sim held squirm bundl, arm stretch 2ward hvn

tears stream dwn face, 4 realiz this wat all that dr

about & many nevr understood

2faction: 1=Mess cum horse ride thru Jeru & kil enemy

2nd. Bliev cum peaceful & this Simeon

Note Rabbi Akiba fool by Simon Bar Cochba, sed he
Star of Jacob: had large follow, but he fake
Here he was hold small baby & kno this reasn G
H Sp direct 2Temp
Read Luke 2:29-32

Can U pictur this? Here wat amt 2 1st Xmas pre. at
But mor than that, it end of dreams bout this event
It mark start, Bgin 2 a nu lif 4thoz who dr with G
Can't U C paralels 2day?
Stand brink worl wide disaster: financ situ Am dolla
precarious
Inflat tak toll ever1, & everthing
Violenc rampant, youth yng peop spree eithr fun or
terrorism
& wat C in midst all this?
I Bliev G 1nce agin want 2 shar dream with us
Almos as tho say DR ALONG WITH ME, & I wil reveal
myself 2U & the rest of the world
(Illus deth richest man in valley)
Who riches man? U & me who kno G wealth ours 4tak
No longr need dr ideal worl, utopiamade by man
Wealth of ages ours 4tak if we wil 2folow footsteps
L's Anointed Js Xp
But as contemplat nu days b4 us perhaps feel unease
bout prospects 4 any & all us
But here also lesson G want us 2lern, not only 4 Nu
Yr, but 4 all of life
(Illustration boy, bird in hand & hermit)
Same apply 2ea us
This yr gudly portion wat we abl 2do as cong wil b
determ by our will
It is as we will hav it & we need 2determ that
wills will conincde with G'S
G call us 2 Dream Along With Him, & the fulfilment
of all dreams is 2B found in striv 2do His will &
2 walk in His ways
Let us mak this a very special yr, & let us commit
selves, body, soul, spirit 2 the Lord & C wat He can
& wil do thru us
Come, Dream Along With Me

"Dream Along With Me"

Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9

Text: Isaiah 42:9

William Shakespeare wrote in his play, "The Tempest":

We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little life
Is rounded with sleep."

We all have dreams and some of them are only momentary, but others stay with us for long periods of time. One of the ~~the~~ songs which Perry Como used on his old TV shows, was, "Dream Along With Me." We like to think that it is only we mortals who dream, but have you ever considered that God dreamed dreams for mankind? Have you ever considered that His dream was for man to be made right before Him and in order to accomplish this He had to work and act in a different way than man is accustomed to ?

Our Scripture for this morning is an example of exactly this. In the opening verse we see the servant of the Lord set forth. This is the promise of that one figure in the future who would put things right for the Jews with other rulers and ~~k~~gdoms.

We see in verses 2 to 4 that His qualifications are not entirely what one would consider for being a supreme ruler. These are the actions of a peaceful person; a quiet man; a peace loving man.

But Isaiah then prophesies as though it were God Himself speaking to this servant as we read in verses 5 and 6. He is to do the things as God outlines in the 7th verse, but He is reminded by God that the glory belongs to God and no other, verse 8.

But God wanting to continue to show His love and concern for His people by giving them the assurance they need of His guidance ~~and~~ ^{IMPARTS} this in the first part of verse 9, "Behold the former things are come to pass." These are the events that had and were taking place in the lives of the Israelites in this 8th century before Christ. But God wanting to encourage and lift their spirits says, "And new things do I declare." ^{VS 9f} The people are to take heart that they are not forgotten and God is working in new ways in their lives. But then God shares with them the dreams that He has for them by telling them:

"Before they spring forth I tell you of them." ~~This is the dream of God and~~

these dreams ~~will be revealed~~ of God will be revealed, but in His own time.

And so for about 7 long centuries the people of Israel dreamed the dream which God had given them. Most of them had given up hope of the dream being fulfilled. The Jewish religion had reached a new low and their leadership was divided into two groups. On the one side were the Pharisees with all of their homemade laws which made God hard and unforgiving. On the other side were the Sadducees who believed that miracles, angels, life after death as being fairy tales and make believe. The leaders acted like madmen and people were put to death for the smallest reason. King Herod arranged to have people put to death upon his own death to insure national mourning. He had members of his own family killed because of his insane jealousy. He was the same man who was to kill all of the babies in Bethlehem to destroy Jesus Christ.

The Romans who held them captive, were barbarians. Pilate stole Temple funds and had some Galilean Jews killed during a worship service. Jerusalem was on the skids financially. Unemployment and crime were way out of proportion. Starving beggars lined the streets, and these were not just the blind and crippled. Idle youth were forming gangs and delinquency was on the increase. But among all of the people in Jerusalem there lived an old man who never stopped dreaming. Even though he saw his nation crumbling all around him, he believed the dream God had sent long ago through Jacob as he lay on his death bed. At that time he had blessed his sons and had told his son Judah that one of his descendants would be an incomparable king and people would flock to him. But this old man ^{in Jerusalem} had been told by God that he would not die until he had seen the "Lord's Christ," which meant the anointed one of God. And this revelation to him would be made by the Holy Spirit.

As Simeon continued his waiting and watching for the unfolding of this dream, he was moved by the Holy Spirit to go to the Temple. While he was there a young couple came with a present. ~~It was wrapped in pretty paper tied with~~
~~pretty ribbon. Instead it was a bundle~~

Hardly anyone noticed for they were merely a part of the teeming crowd at that time. The woman was carrying a bundle. ~~It was wrapped in pretty paper, nor was it tied with a fancy ribbon.~~ ^{INSTEAD, IT WAS WRAPPED IN A BLANKET.} But strangely enough the mother handed that bundle to the aged Simeon. And as Simeon held that squirming bundle in his hands with his arms stretched toward heaven, the tears were probably streaming down his face, for he realized that here was what all that dreaming was about. Here was what so many never understood completely. There were two sides of the issue of what the promised Messiah would be. One group believed him to be coming mounted on a horse and charging through the streets of Jerusalem. They pictured hand to hand combat with clashing swords the hated Romans being pushed backward in complete rout. History tells us that the noted educator Rabbi Akiba was fooled by a man named Simon bar Cocheba who claimed to be the "star of Jacob." He had quite a following but proved to be a fake.

Then there was the other group of which Simeon was a part. They believed that the Messiah would come and would be a teaching Messiah who would change hearts and lives in this way.

And now here he was, holding this small baby and knowing this was the reason God's Holy Spirit had directed him to the Temple at this time. Listen to the words he said as Luke records them in the 2nd chapter the 29th to the 32nd verses, (Read this).

Can you picture this? Here was what amounted to ~~the~~ being the first Christmas present. But it was more than that, it was an end for the time of dreaming about this event. It marked the start, a beginning if you will to a new life for those who dreamed along with God. But can't you see the parallels in this event to our own day and age? We stand on the brink of world-wide disaster. The financial situation of the American dollar is precarious to say the least. Inflation has taken its toll on everyone and everything. Violence is rampant through the world. The youth and young people in so many places are completely off on a spree of violence and terrorism. And what is there to see in the midst of all of this? I believe that God is once again wanting to share His

dream with us. It is as though He were saying, "Dream Along With Me," and I will reveal myself to you and the rest of the world.

(Illustration of the death of the richest man in the valley)

Who is the richest man? It is you and me who know that God's wealth is ours for the taking. We no longer need to dream of an ideal world or a utopia made by man. The wealth of the ages is ours for the taking if we are willing to follow in the footsteps of the ~~xxx~~ Lord's Anointed, Jesus Christ.

But as we once again contemplate the new days stretching before us we cannot help but perhaps feel a sense of uneasiness about the prospects for any and all of us. But in this too is a lesson which God would have us learn not only for this new year, but for all of life.

(Illustration of boy, bird in hand, and hermit)

The same applies to each of us. This year a goodly portion of what we are able to do as a congregation is determined by our will. It is as we will have it and we need to determine that our wills will coincide with God's will. God calls us to "Dream Along With Him," and the fulfillment of all dreams is to be found in striving to do His will and to walk in His ways.

Let us make this a very special year and let us each commit ourselves, body, soul, and spirit to the Lord and see what He can and will do through us.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - SEPTEMBER 22, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: HABAKKUK 1

SERMON: "THE PERPETUAL, PERPLEXING QUESTION!"
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 11479

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

DIANE -
LYNN

SHIRLEY

CALHOON

HUTCHIN RANBNA/DALE

MARSHALL

SCRIP: HAB 1; SERM: "TH/PERPETUAL, PERPLEXING QUESTION"
 (ILLUS NEW MINSTER, SS, & ASK QUESTIN BOUT WALLS JERICHO)
 HOPEFULLY WE ALL KN TH/ANSR NEW MINSTRS QUESTIN
 CAN SYMPHIZ W/HIM BCUZ THER R QUESTINS SEEM HAV NO ANSR
 HAB WAS MAN WHO SOT ANSR AND NUN WER 4CUMING
 NAME MEANS=EMBRACE JOSIAH, JEHOIAHAZ= EGYPT - JEHOIAKIM
 HE WAS RANKED 8TH IN TH/ORDER OF TH/MINOR PROPHS
 HE LIVD ABOUT 12th OR 13th YEAR OF REIGN OF JOSIAH 630-29 BC
 HE PROPH CONCERN INVASIN OF CHALDEANS, OR BABYLONIANS - SAME
 HIS PROPH HERE GIVN RND 607 BC & ACTULY FULFIL 607 BC
 HAD DEEP LUV 4PEOP & CONCERN WAT IMPEND INVASIN WUD BRING
 HE & HIS PEOP WER LIV ONE DARKES TIMES JUDAH HISTRY
 APOSTACY, FAL AWAY FR/FAITH RAMPANT THRUOUT ALL JUDAH
 VS 2=CRYS TO GOD, BUT SEEMS GOD NO HEARS
 VSS 3-4=HERE AGE OLD PERPLEX QUESTIN--WHY WICKD PROSPER & RITEUS
 SUFFER???

VSS 5-6=THEZ GIV G'S ANSR
 VS 5=LOOK & WATCH G SAYS
 VS 6=TH/PROMISED INVASIN IS G'S INSTRUMENT AS PUNISHMENT NOT
 AS THER COMPLET DEMOLITIN OR ANNIHILATIN
 VSS 7-11=HERE R TH/QUALITYS OF THEZ CHALDEANS/BABYLONIANS
 THEZ PEO CONSIDR THER STRENGTH AS THER GOD
 VS 12=ACKNOWLEDG WAT G IS DOING THRU THIS CIRCUMSTANCE
 VS 13=SAME AGE OLD QUESTIN - WHY WICKD GET AHED/PROSPER?????
 TH/ANSR IS ALWAYS THAT G GIVS MAN FREE CHOICE - GOD OR EVIL
 (ILLUSTRATION OF JUKES FAMILY & DESCENDANTS)
 DI THEY HAV HAPINES??? MAYBE MOMENTARILY, NOT COMPLETLY
 (ILLUSTRATION WOMAN IN CLEVELAND HUSBAND KILLED)
 THESE PEOPLE CHOSE THEIR DESTINIES - NOT GOD
 ANYONE WHO STRIVES TO KNOW GOD WIL FIND HIM, GOD WIL PROVID THE
 KNOWLEDG OF HIMSELF TO ANYONE WHO WIL LISTN

...NRD SINICK WORLD IN PERSON OF JS XP - HERE AGIN IS CHOICE
 WE MAY CHOOSE TO ACPT XP, REJECT G'S OFFR OF SALV
 THEN IF LIF TURNS OUT BADLY, CAN WE BLAME GOD??? - CHOICE
 (PDS=AARON BURR & HIS CHOICE)
 HIS CHOICE BROT TH/END RESULTS OF HIS LIF - NO BLAME GOD
 EXAMPL TIMES HAB, & OUR TIMES PARALLEL
 (ILLUS COLIN POWELL QUOTE WEN DROP OUT PRESIDENTIL RACE)
 PEO NEED TO CHANG & NOT GOD - HIS LUV GOES ON & ON
 HE IS THER THRU EVRYTH WE GO THRU
 (ILLUS CIVIL WAR SOLDIER & GIRL ENGAGED TO)
 IF CAN READ & HEAR BOUT ERTHLY LUV LIK THIS, HOW MUCH MOR IS THE
 EVERLASTING LUV OF GOD?
 WE MAY NOT B ABL OVRCUM PERPLEX PRBS OF LIF, GILTY GO FREE, EVIL
 PROPS ETC.
 BUT THER IS ONE WHO GUARANTEES HIS UNFAILING LUV THRU IT ALL
 THAT LUV IS OURS THRU JS XP
 MAY CRY LIK HAB VS 2A-READ - BUT HE ANSR MY GRACE IS SUFF FOR
 THEE & GRACE=JS XP

"The Perpetual Perplexing Question"
 Scripture: Hab 1; Text: Hab 1:2, 13
 (Illus nu preachr ask bout walls Jericho)
 Who hopfully we kno anser, I sur can symphiz ther R
 frustrat quests seem hav no anser
 Habbakkuk such man; his name mean=EMBRACE
 He proph invas by Chaldeans, or Babylonians
 Vs 6=show invasion no tak plac yet
 vss 7-11=sho cruelty thez peop
 Proph mad 607 BC, early Jehoiakim rein, fulfil 606 BC
 Hab luv his peop, deep concern 4invas, kil & destruct
 He & peop liv 1darkst tim Judah histry
 Apostacy=faith fall away; rampant thruout Judah
 vss 2-4=thez conditions he cry out bout
 find recorded 2 Kings 21-22
 Thus Perpet Perplex Quest=plague man sinc Adam/Eve
 WHY DO EVIL, UNRIGHTOUB PROSPER & GET AHEAD????
 WHY NOT ALL DESTROYED????
 Hab ask twice=vss 2 & 13 (read)
 How can this B? Can't U do sumthin? Why G? WHY????
 Job reply 2 frends=JOB 12:6-10, & here G G concern
 4 mankind
 But mus underst how & why all cam bout which make
 anyone quest faith in G 4 one reason or other
 Behavior of man can giv us thez insites
 (Illus Max Jukes, wife, Cleveland housewife & kilr hus)
 Can we blame this on God? Thez actions peop choic
 If wil 2striv 2liv lik G want, many quests stil unans
 but hav comfort G wil care & provide
 He giv anser, but man no listen, 1such anser=Js Xp
 Bibl tel us this love & examp=Heb 10:28-29 (read)
 My v peop want 2do this, Eat, Drink, B mery, 4 2moro die
 (Illus B lack man & everybody want go 2 hvn, no want
 G no continu ofr gift lif whil we refus timaft tim
 Ther cum tim G withdraw H Sp & then 2late
 (Examp Aaron Burr such a man)
 Perpet Perplex Quest may alway remain 4many the cry
 of Hab=vs 2, (read)
 But 4thoz who sincer want 2walk Sav Js Xp no longr
 P ask bout thorn flesh
 G say=My Grace Is Sufficient 4 Thee
 This we al need 2kno, all circumst G ther with us
 G has luv 4 ea us that refus 2 quit
 (Illus Civil War, soldier & girlfriend)
 If can read, underst erthly luv as this, how much mor
 can we underst vastnes G's luv 4creation & children
 (y not B abl 2care 4selvs in tragedy, diseas othr
 circumstanc, but ther 1 who guarantee unfaill luv
 Perpet Perplex Quests hav bin anser by G thru Js Xp
 4thoz anser can & shud B a part of Ur lif & mine

"The Perpetual, Perplexing Question"

Scripture: Habakkuk 1:

Text: Habakkuk 1:2; 13

(Illustration of preacher, (new minister), asking about wall of Jericho)

Although, hopefully, we know the answer to the new minister's question, I am sure that we can sympathize with him that there are frustrating questions which seem to have no answers. The prophet Habakkuk was just such a man. His name in Hebrew ~~hahabak~~ means, "Embrace." He prophesied in Judah concerning the coming invasion by the Chaldeans, or the Babylonians. The invasion had not yet taken place as we read in verse 6. We can see how cruel and fierce these people were when we read verses 7-11. This prophecy was given probably around 607 B.C. and actually was fulfilled in 607 B.C. Habakkuk loved his people and had a deep concern for the impending invasion of his nation and the killing and destruction which would come from it. He along with his people was living in one of the darkest times of Judah's history. Apostasy, or the falling away from the faith was rampant throughout all of Judah. The conditions he is crying out against as we read in verses 2-4, can be found recorded in the book of 2 Kings, chapters 21 through 22.

So it is that we find recorded the perpetual perplexing question which man has asked ever since the original sin of Adam and Eve, "Why do the evil and unrighteous prosper and get ahead? Why are they not all destroyed?" Habakkuk actually asks this question twice within this chapter. We see it first recorded in the 2nd verse, (read). And we see it recorded again in the 13th verse, (read). He is asking, "How can this be? Can't you do something about it?" These are the questions man has been asking since the creation. ~~But~~ He is asking, "Why God? Why?" The much afflicted man of the Old Testament Job, replied to his friends what we need to know as well. (Read Job 12:6-10). Here we can see that ~~Job~~ has a concern for mankind. But we need to understand how and why all of this came about which makes anyone question faith in God for one reason or another.

~~(Illustration)~~ If we are willing to look at several illustrations of the behaviour of man we can readily see ~~that~~ this in a better light.

(Illustration of Max Jukes and wife, and Cleveland housewife and killer husband)

We cannot blame these incidents upon God. We must and should understand that these are the actions of people who chose to be this way. If we are willing to strive to live as God wants us to, we may have many questions which cannot be answered, but we will have a comfort which comes from God Himself that even in the most remote circumstances, God will care and provide.

God has always given answers to man if he will but listen. One of the answers He gave ^{was} ~~not only~~ in and through a physical body, which was Jesus Christ. But He also inspired the writers of what is our Bible to tell us of this love.

The author of the book of Hebrews puts it this way in the 10th chapter the 28th and 29th verses, (read this). There are many people today who choose to tread underfoot the the Son of God. We live in an age which wants to enjoy all of the things of this world with no regard for what happens after this life. It is the old philosophy of, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die." But it is like the old black man once said, "Everyone wants to go to heaven, but no one wants to die to get there." We need to understand that God is not going to continually offer His gift of life to us time after time while we refuse to accept it time after time. There comes a time when God withdraws His Holy Spirit from striving with us to get right with Him and then it is too late. One noted American was just such a man.

(Illustration of Aaron Burr and his life).

"The Perpetual Perplexing Question," may always remain for many, the cry of the prophet Habakkuk, "O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear?" But for those who are sincere in wanting to walk with the Saviour Jesus Christ it is no longer a problem which needs an answer.

The Apostle Paul spoke of questioning God concerning what he called his thorn in the flesh, and how God spoke to him and said, "My Grace is sufficient for thee." This is a fact we all need to absorb and know, that in all circumstances of life, even though they may be at their darkest, Yet God is there with us.

God has a love for each of His own that refuses to quit.

(Illustration of Civil War Soldier and girlfriend)

If we can read and hear of an earthly love such as this, how much more can we understand the vastness of God's love for His creation and His children.

We may not be able to care for ourselves in tragedy, or a disease, or any other circumstance. But there is one who guarantees His unfailing love. The Perpetual Perlexing Questions have been answered by God in and through Jesus Christ. And ~~they~~ those answers can and should be a part of our lives.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany January 28, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Sandy Ferree and Beth Feder - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Fantasy in C Major" J.S. Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 1 "Holy, Holy, Holy!"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Lord, Our Father, we come to you as a people who are a part of the community of believers. We seek your guidance for we know that the Church cannot exist without it. Forgive each member of your Church for their individual and corporate sins. Keep us true to the commitment of upbuilding the Church throughout the world. Keep us from the divisions that separate us from others. And always keep us steadfast in your love, in Jesus name. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Offertory"
The Installation of Church School Officers and Teachers
The Reception of New Members
Anthem: "The King of Love My Shepherd is" Shelley
Nancy and Lloyd Link and the Chancel Choir
Scripture Habakkuk 2
Sermon: "Supreme Bowl 1"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 289 "Soldiers of Christ, arise"
*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Postlude: "Moderato" Rinck

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been given by Mrs. Ann Williams in memory of "Loved Ones."
The new Ferns on the Altar have been given by Donn E. Miller in loving memory of his Mother - Dorothy Kalb Miller.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Gloria Walker, Robin Knauer, and Mary Dellen.

> Hospitalized: Mr. Coyle Fowler, Mrs. Paul Ritter, Mr. Robert Tait. - *LILLIAN KRADEL*

> Tonight - 5:30 - Congregational Dinner - Meeting - Special Surprises - Year Books will be given out.

Bring enough tureens to compensate for your family.

Chet Stauffer will be MC; - Richard Mangel - Pres.

Attendance - Jan. 14 - 15/

> Those being received into Membership today are:

By Letter of Transfer: Mr. Ronald Kradel, Mrs. Ronald Kradel (Sandra), Ronda Kradel, James Vensel, Eleanor Parker, Virginia Doms, Josephine Montgomery, Vaughn Rogers, Raymond Isherwood. Profession of Faith - Mrs. Donald Wogan (Patty).

ARC SWEETHEART DINNER-DANCE - Meadows - Feb. 10 -

6:00 P.M. PLEASE PICK UP YOUR TICKETS TODAY.

See Alvin Tait's or Allen Botacchi - come to the Office.

SOUP AND SALAD DAY - Feb. 13 - Tickets are now on sale from the Circle Chairman - Price \$2.00.

Children's serving \$1.00.

> Tues. - 7:00 - Bible Study

Wed. - 6-7 P.M. - Young Choir practice with Ginger and Lloyd Link directing.

Wed. - 7:00 - Chancel Choir practice.

Basketball - Thurs. Feb. 1 - 7:30 - St. Marys vs.

St. Paul's. Saturday - 4:00 - St. Marks vs. St. Paul's

(These are for the Senior Division of Basketball)

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Galbraith will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

LILLIAN KRADEL & RALPH COOPER 37th ANN. TODAY

"Supreme Bowl 1"
Scrip: Hab 2; Text: Hab 2:20

I am mos U famil futbol; may not kno underst all,
& U no underst me 2day, perhap hus, wif, fam men expl
All eye sport worl direc Miam 2day, but I wud lik
et our think 2 another game.
1st: 58 min play B4 full hous
Score tied, 2 min warn sound, qbak cal tim run off;
Ref no C & clock continu 2run; bak on field; call play
bak 2pass, receivr dwn field; long pass, jump & is
catch TD & win; hush, receivr defends jump; hav hand
on ball, look lik catch, cum dwn
But W it! Did he catch ball, or is pass incomplete?
Only U can suply anser Bcuz game is Supreme Bowl 1
which B played each day we liv
U may nevr thot yourself particip real liv game,
But UR & outcum 4U & me is vital
Expl game: 2 teams=Fiting Xpians & Worldly Lions
Each hav coach=God for Xpians; Satan 4 Worldly Lions
" " book plays, game plan=G's is Bible
Game plan set 4th Hab 2:1-5=Read
Final outcum of game vs 4=Read
4 game 2B play mus kno opposition 2overcum
Every gud team hav gud players each position
Worldly Lions hav 5 gud linebackers
DISHONESTY vs 6=always this sid B legal; if can do
Behind Ref bak, he do it; tak advanthag every opening
GREED vs 9=not 2mak nam 4self; do anything get shed
expens others; hate any1 hav sumthin he don't have
RUTHLESS vs 12=Real dirty playr; cheap shot in ord
win; game 2B play dirty; watevr tak 2win
TRICK vs 15=Meet oppo playr help up, smile & giv
pearance friendship; but do wat can 2bring dwn
UNRELIABLE vs 19=cannot, wil not admit wrong team; impr
all plays, press pat on bak 4liberal liberated lif
Also, Hatred, Anger, Jealousy, Liar, Gossip, Pride,
Bench= Murder, Thievery, Cheating, Ill-will etc.
That Defense & we Offense, ordinary playr excep 4
Qbak Js Xp; no gain gud press covr 4no kno He King
Coach kno & reveal=illus B Graham Scand, Crusade
Key play series of dwns & so game continu
But mus hav spectators & Supreme Bowl 1 overflow cr
Read Heb 12:1=G's hvnly host & watch us ever play
(Illus Lou Litl, boy & Dad who blind, dead)
Gam no giv ring, play next yr also, this 1 & only
a day, win/los, stakes lif/deth=Hymn say, 2 him over
meth a crown lif shall B, he with K Glory reign et.
Hab 2:20=He watch, wait 4 our actions; Hav u determ
or wil U determ whos aid U play? May ea us determ 2
Bcum vital part Supr B 1 & folo ldr Js Xp.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - SEPTEMBER 29, 1996

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

COMMUNION/LORD'S SUPPER - NEXT SUNDAY OCT 6

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER 3

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: HABAKKUK 2
SERMON: "SUPREME BOWL 1"
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 1/28/79

*HYMN
*BENEDICTION/POSTLUDE

PUNXY
WAYNE STEAR - ~~HOSPITAL~~ HOSPITAL
DIANE
BILL - TURNING
BARBARA
MRS. MORGAN
GRACE - DYNN

VS-19=UNBELIEF HIS NAME
 CANOT/WIL NOT ADMIT HE ON WRONG TEAM
 ALL OTHR PLAYRS HIS TEAM PAT BAK,& HE
 GET GUD PRES COVRAG BCUZ PLAY/LIV SUCH
 LIBRATD/LIBRAL LIFE
 OTHR PLAYRS NO MENTIN:
 H ~~ED,ANGR,JELOUSY,LIARS,GOSSIPS,CHEATS~~
 PRIDE,ENVY
 THEZ ALL PROS & PLAY/SUBSTITUT REGRLY
 ON BENCH R- MURDR, THIEVRY,ILL-WILL,ETC
 BUT WORLDLY LIONS ON DEFENS & MUS LK OFEN
 TEAM MOSLY COMMON PLAYRS
 SUM STANDOUTS,BUT ORD & PLAY AS COAHND
 FITING XPAINS QUAPTRBAK-JS-XP
 NO RECEIV ACCLADS,PRES COVRAG,BCUZ NOT
 KNOWN 4 KING HE IS
 BUT COACH-GOD,KNO HIM & REVEAL FR/TIME TO
 TIME IN MARVELUS WAYS
 (ILUS BILLY GRAHAM LONDON CRUSADE=DISRUPT)
 WAT GRP DISRUPTS PLAN AS REVERSAL OF
 XPIAN MESAG,G TURN INTO TRIUMPH
 W/TWO TEAMS ON FIELD MUSB SPECTATRS IN
 STANDS
 HEB 12:1=HVNLY HOST WATCH AS PLAY GAME OF
 LIFE
 HEAR/HEAD BOUT ANGELS - TV-TOUCHD BY
 ANGEL
 I BLIEV THER R ANGELS WATCH/PROTECT
 (ILUS LOU LITTLE,PLAYER & DAD WHO DIED)
 MA NEVR THOT OF G KEEP WATCH OVR HIS
 CHILDREN THIS WAY,
 BUT IT CERTIN AS WE R IN ~~TO MOTHER OF~~
 ALL-BOWLS, THAT G IS WATCHING HIS OWN
 OUTCUM OF GAM NO BRING GOD/DIAMOND
 ENCRUST RING & NOTHR GAME NEX YR
 EA DAY STRUGL & EITHER WIN/LOSE
 TH/STAKES R LIFE/DETH
 HYMNWRITR=TO HIM THAT OVRUMETH A CROWN
 OF LIFE-SHALB,HE W/TH/KING OF GLORY
 SHAL REIGN-ETRNALY
 WE DARE NOT LOSE ONE YARD TO WORLDLY LIONS
 MUS WRESTL/FITE/PRAY
 G WANT EA WEAR WINNR CROWN IN GLORY
 HAV WE DETERM WE R FITE ON RITE SIDE IN
 THIS SUPREME BOWL???

HAB WRITE-VS-20--(READ) - LET US KNOW G
 & FOLLOW ~~TNRH~~ OUR LDR JS XP

SCRIP: HAB 2; TEXT: 2;20; SERM: "SUPREME BOWL 1"

IF PROPHS WER WRIT 2DAY, THEY WUD RITE WORDS/STYLE WE CUD UNDRST
 IT WUD B IN TH/IDIOM OF LIVS, CIRCUMS, EVENTS WH/PART OUR LIFE
 I BLIEV HABUKKUK WUD PERHAPS WRIT THIS 2ND CHAP & COMPAR TO
 A GAME

I ID LK LK THIS CHAP THAT VEIN THIS MORN
 (ILUS 2MIN WARR GIVN,SCOR TIED,PAS THROWN, IS IT CAUT???)

ONLY U CAN ANSR THAT QUES BCUZ GAM IS "SUPREME BOWL 1" & GAME
 IS B PLAYD OUT EA DAY WE LIV
 MAY NEVR THOT U PART OF GAME,BUT U R & OUTCUM 4U & ME IS VREAL

2UNDRST ALL THIS MUS DELV IN2 BAKGR GAME & SPORT

MUS HAV 2TEAMS=FOR SUPREME BOWL 1- FITING XPIANS & WORLY LIONS

COACH EA TEAM= XPIANS COACH - GOD: LIONS COACH - SATAN

BUK OF PLAYS= XPIANS - BIBLE: LIONS - SECULAR-WORLD TEACHINGS

HAB GO OVR PLAYS/PLANS GOD HAS 4TEAM - VSS 1-3--(READ)
 TH/GAM WIL RUN ITS CORB, & ALL UNFOLD AS GAME GO ON

VS-4=G SUBMIT WAT WIL B FINAL OUTCUM OF GAME

4A=WORDLY LIONS--BABYLONIANS THIS INSTANC,BLIEV THEY WIL WIN

4B="TH/JUST" -FITING XPIANS - TH/RITUS,TH/BLIEVRS WIL WIN

BUT U HAV KNO OPOSITIN IN ORDR OVRCUM
 EVR FUTBAL TEAM DIF PLAYRS,DIF POS
 ITINS

WORDLY LIONS HAV 5GUD-LINEBAKRS

VS-6B=DISHONESTY HIS NAME

JUS THIS SID B LEGL,DO THING

BHIND REF BAK TAK ADVAN OF
 OPMINGS 2PLAY DIRTY

VS-1=GREED HIS NAME

OUT 2MAK NAM 4SELF, WANTS 2B

ALL PRO,WIL DO ANYTH 2GET

AHED EXPENS OF OTHRS

HATES ANYONE HAS SUMTH HE NO

HAS

VS 12=RUTHLES HIS NAME

THIS REAL DIRTY PLAYR

TAKS EVR CHEAP SHOT HE CAN

IN ORDR TO WIN

4HIM GAM 2B PLAYD AS DIRTY

BY ANY/ALL MEANS

WATEVR TAKS TO WIN-MOTTO

VS-15=DECEPTIN HIS NAME

PIKS PLAYRS UP,SMILES &

GIVS APPEAR OF FRENDSHIP

DUZ ALL CAN BRING OTHRS

DWN HIS LEVL BCUZ HE IS

FRUSTRATD W/HIS LIFE

"Supreme Bowl 1"

Scripture: Habakkuk 2

Text: Habakkuk 2:20

I am sure that most of you are familiar in one ^{way} or another with the game of football. Perhaps you don't understand all of it and I trust that if you are unable to understand ~~anything~~ anything I say this morning in reference to it, you will be enlightened by your husband or wife, or some other family member. Although all the eyes of the sports world will be directed to the Super Bowl this afternoon, I would like to direct our thinking to another game. In this particular game 58 minutes have been played before a sell-out crowd. The score is tied. The two minute warning has been given and play has resumed on the field. The fans are on their feet as the excitement begins to mount. On the field the quarterback signals to the referee for time out and walks to the sidelines. But the referee does not see this and the clock continues to run. As it begins to wind down to just precious seconds left, the quarterback dashes back to the field ~~XXXXX~~ hurriedly assembles his team at the line of scrimmage,; calls a play and drops back to pass. A very gifted and talented receiver is far down field being covered by several opposing players and the quarterback releases the ball. A hush descends over the crowd for they know that if he catches it he will probably score. The ball is sailing through the air and just at the last moment the receiver and the defenders leap into the air for the ball. The receiver has his hands wrapped around the ball as he begins to drop to the ground to begin running the remaining yards to the goal. But wait! Did he catch the ball, or is the pass incomplete? Only you can supply the answer because the game is "Supreme Bowl 1" which is being played out each day that we live. You may have never thought of yourself as a participant in a real live game. But you are and the outcome for you ~~is~~ and me is vital. But in order to understand all of this we need to delve into the background of this game and sport. First, there must be two teams. The two teams represented in this Supreme Bowl are the Fighting Christians and they are being opposed by the Wordly Lions. Each team must have a coach. ~~The sea~~

The coach of the Christians is God, and the coach of the Lions is Satan.

Each team must have a game plan and a book of plays. God has provided this through the Bible. In the portion of Habakkuk which we used as Scripture God sets this forth in verses 1-3. He tells us that all of this will unfold as the game progresses. In verse 4 He submits what must be the final outcome of the game for the members of the Fighting Christians team.

But in order to play the game the opposing team needs to be looked at and sized up. You have to know your opposition in order to overcome them. With every good football team there are different people to play different positions. So it is with the Wordly Lions. We cannot pick all of them out individually at

this point but we can see that they have at least 5 good linebackers. God points out the first one out in verse 6 and his name is Dishonesty. "Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his." This fellow is always taking ~~advantage~~ advantage of every little situation.

He is always just this side of being legal, but if he can do something behind the referees back and get away with it, he does it. He takes advantage of every little opening that permits him to play dirty.

The next fellow is ¹⁵ Greed as described in verse 9, (read). Here is a fellow that is out to make a name for himself. He is the player who wants only to be the all-pro at his position. In order to get to this status he will do anything to get

ahead at the expense of others. But he absolutely hates anyone to have something he does not have. Ruthless as described in

The next fellow is ~~xxxxxx~~ ¹⁶ Ruthless as described in verse 12, (read), and here is the real dirty player of the Lions. He is the one who takes every cheap shot he can give in order to win. For him the game is to be played by any and all dirty means. Whatever it takes to win, do it and never mind that it isn't fair, is his motto.

The next player is Deception, as described in verse 15. He is the one who meets the opposing players, picks them up after they have been knocked down and smiles to give the appearance of friendship. But he does all he can to bring everyone down to his level because he is frustrated with life.

The last linebacker is found in verse 19, (read). This guy is named Unbelief. He cannot and will not admit that he is on the wrong team. He is impressed that

all of the other players of the Worldly Lions and their followers pat him on the back and give him good press coverage because he plays and lives such a liberal and ^{so called} liberated life.

But this team is made up of many other players equally as good. Each of them are all-pros in their own right. There is Hatred, Anger, Jealousy, Liar, Gossip, Pride to name the rest on the field. But their bench is made up of many who can and do substitute regualrly. There is Murder, Thievery, Cheating, Ill-will, and so on.

But that is the team which is on the defense. We need to look at the team which has the ball and is the offense. The team is made up of mostly common ordinary players. There are a few standouts, but for the most part they are people who just play the game striving to follow the play book provided for them by their coach. But this team, the Fighting Christians is quarterbacked by Jesus Christ. He calls the plays and helps each player to execute it. He has not received the accolades of the press and news media, but that is to be expected for they do not know Him for the King which He is. But the coach knows His ability and from time to time He reveals this in marvelous ways.

(Illustration of Billy Graham crusade in Scandinavia and hecklers)

What a group of disrupters had planned as a reversal of the Christian message, God turned into the key play of that series of downs. And so the game continues.

But along with two teams on the field playing, there must be a group of spectators in the stands. Even in "Supreme Bowl 1" there is an overflow crowd watching the action on the field.

(Read Hebrews 12:1). The cloud of witnesses is made up of God's heavenly host ~~xxxxxxxx~~ not only watching the teams playing, but watching over the actions of the Fighting Christians to keep them from serious danger and harm. I believe that as we assemble here this day, God's angels are watching what we say and do.

(Illustration of Lou Little, young football player and blind dad who died)

You may have never thought of God keeping watch over His children in this way. But one thing is certain, and that is we are involved in the Bowl to end all Bowls. The outcome of this game will not bring us a gem encrusted ring and another opportunity to come back and play in this game next year. Each day we struggle in this game and it is either win or lose. The stakes are life or death. We have the promise as the hymnwriter says, "To him that overcometh a crown of life shall be, he with the king of glory, shall reign eternally." We dare not loose one yard to the Wordly Lions. We must wrestle, and fight, and pray. We are involved in the biggest game ever played. God wants each of us to wear that winners crown in glory with Him. Have you determined, or will you determine on whose side you play this game? May each of us determine that this day we ^{will} become a vital part of "Supreme Bowl 1" and follow our leader Jesus Christ.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany February 4, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Sharon Pfabe, Julie Vargo - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Solemn Processional" Handel
*Processional Hymn No. 8 "Praise ye the Lord"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Our Father, we confess before
you that our lives are not what they should be. We
do undesired sin, and we permit temptations to overcome
us. But we know there is forgiveness with you when we
do confess. So as we humbly seek forgiveness, we ask
for new strength to lead a more Godly life, for we pray
in the Master's name. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements - Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Solo: "The Prayer Perfect" - Oley Speaks - Cyndie Sybert
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Voluntary" Rinck
Anthem: "The Longer I Serve Him" Faither
Sung by the Chancel Choir
Scripture: Habakkuk 3
Sermon: "Thanks For Nothing!"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 466 "He leadeth me"
Benediction

*Threefold Amen
*Postlude "He Leadeth Me" Improvisation

*Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
The Roy Andrews Family in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Allen Botacchi, Dan
Bosko, Robert Knauer, and Charles Penar.
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bolam will greet the Congregation
at the door today.
Nursery will be provided today by Dru Rensel, Patty
McWilliams and Amy Burns.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Lillian Kradel, Mr. Coyle Fowler,
Mrs. Judy Shearer, Mrs. Paul Ritter, - BCMH.
Mr. Edward Weichey - Cleveland Clinic.
Tonight - 6-7 - Junior High Fellowship
Tonight - 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Tuesday - 7:00 - Bible Study. We will be studying
the book of James.
Teachers Training will begin next Sunday evening from
7-9 P.M. if the books arrive this week. Please contact
the Pastor if you would like to be a part of this
class. We will be studying, "New Testament Survey."
Anyone may be a part of this class. *Sign up office*
Thurs. - Feb. 15 - 6:30 P.M. - Butler Area Laymen's
Dinner at Bethany United Church of Christ. J. Walter
Harmon and Chuck Penar have tickets.
Wed. - Feb. 7 - Youth Choir 6-7
Wed. - Chancel Choir - 6:30 P.M.
Wed. - 7:30 - Council
Thurs. - The Newsletter will be put out - Please have
all material in by Wednesday.
Please make additional nominations today for Elders
and Deacons. You may name as many members as you like
without securing their permission. These people will
be contacted in the future for the training classes
to be set up. Please place the slips on the offering
plate.
Paul Campbell and Don Kingsley will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
Saturday - 3:00 - Christian Missionary Alliance vs.
St. Paul's UCC - Senior Division of Basketball.
Words cannot express our sincere thanks and appreciation
for the wonderful tribute bestowed upon us on the
Congregational Dinner. May God Bless you all.
- Ann, Alta and Alma

"Thanks For Nothing!"
Scrip: Hab 3; Text: Hab. 3:17-18

Examp of water surge cause by halftime TV football
(h radio announc NS & SS 1st half; SS WS 2nd half
but comere1 mak us do sumthin else, but sum caus
us 2 think=Maldin & Wat Wil U Do?
(Perhap hav solu & comp hope U buy credit card
Man stud & watch helplesly as hous & all swept flud
Wat did he Do? Wat Wud U Do?
Yng girl prim lif redy step adult 18, div water break
neck paralyze neck down. Wat did she do? Wat Wud U Do?
Circumstanc lik thez giv us paus 2think serous lif
Hab lk serousnes lif & cam 2conclus U & I shud read
3rd chap Hab is prayr & Bgin this way=Read vs 1
Shigionoth mean=Erring, or 2 Go Astray & this Israel
This why Hab cry 2 G in 2nd vs=Read
Then he go on 2recount wat G dun on past
He saw G as of old & pictur lik Moses Deut 32:2
G compar 2 grt Light
In all this, & in al 3 chaps confid faith trust in G
Bliev wat G did in past, will do in future
Vs 17=recount all thing may cum 2pas & wat anser?
Wat wud U say? "ormal react=Thanks For Nothing
Many say it & Bcum bitr & turn from G completly
" walk chip on shoulldr Bcuz this
(Examp No chip Ur shoulldr peop mite think cum head)
Sum do act wooden head, but chip cum from harts
& wen hav chip hard 2C even adversty G work purp
But all mak quests & quests deserv answers
(Illus scientist, cold, chauffeur giv lectur, & quest)
Answers 2quests bring 2 G can only Banser His time
How do calmly, delibratly do this? =Tak at Hos Word
Ay=Al thing work 2gethr 4gud 2 them luv G, 2 them
who R called according 2 His purpose
Psalm say=Trust in L & He bring 2 pass
Js say=Lo I with Ualway even un2 end world
Thez giv confidenc & mentl helth peop say=optimistic
(Illus Scotsman & it cud B worse)
We need 2kno anything cud B wors, but G knows & givs
no mor than we can handl
Wat man do wen hous wash away flud? He burst sing
& tol how put all time, money in2 it & Bcum idol
& G take away
Wat did yng girl paralyz neck dwn? Thank G 4it
(Examp note Joni Erickson drew teeth, mouth)
(Illus black woman & much obliged Lord)
I all lif many tim may Bliev nothing giv thanks 4
But Hab felt sam way & sed=Vs 18 & G provid 4mankind
If no say thanks anythin else can say 4this, lif itsel
Wat wil U do wen events lif surround & U no feel

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - OCTOBER 6, 1996

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOV 3

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: HABAKKUK 3
SERMON: "THANKS FOR NOTHING!"
L BY SUPPER ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 2/4/79
*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

CALHOON
WAYNE
LYNN - SURGEY
JIM EMBERTON FAMILY
WISPOKIN - REC

anythin 2B thankful 4?

Wil U say as world=Thanks For Nothing?

Or wil U say as Paul=Thanks B2 G who giveth us
the victory thru our Lord & Saviour Js Xp?

SCRIP: HAB 3; SERM: "THANKS FOR NOTHING"

(ILUS-THANKSGIVING-QUOTE-BY-WILL-IAM-LAW)

A MAN STUD HELPLESLY BY & WATCHD HOUSS & EVRTH OWND B SWEP AWAY
BY A FLUD - WAT DID HE DO?? WAT WUD U DO??
A YNG GIRL AT PRIME OF LIF, REDY 2STEP INTO WORLD OF ADULTHUS AT
7 DIVS INTO TH/WATR & SUFFRS BROKN NEK COMPLETELY PARLYZES FROM
NEK ON DWN - WAT DID SHE DO?? WAT WUD U DO??

CIRCUMS-LIK THEZ GIV PAUS-2CONSIDR SERIUSNES OF LIF
HABUKKUK LKD SERIUSNES OF LIF RND HIM & CAM CONCLUSIN SHUD-ALL
REACH

THIS 3RD CHAP IS PRAYR & BGIN VS 1 W/REMARK -(READ)

SHIGIONMOTH ==ERRING OR GOING ASTRAY
TH/ERRING, OR GO ASTRAY TUK PLAC LIVS ISRAELITES

VS 2=HAB CRY'S OUT TO GOD

VSS 3-4=BGIN RECOUNT WAT G HAS DUN IN PAST
PICTURS G AS MOSES DID IN DEUT-32:2, WHER G IS CP 2GRT LITE

THIS CHAP, ALL OF RUK PROPH HAS CONF FAITH/TRUST IN GOD
HE BLIEV AS G DUN IN PAST WIL DO IN FUTUR

VS 5=POWR OF GOD

VS 6=HE IS MIGHTY GOD

VS 7=G'S DELIVRANC AT RED SEA & ENEMYS FEAR

VSS 8-9=G'S ANGER

VSS 10-12=G'S JUDGEMENTS

VS 13=G'S PURPOSE - SALVATIN

VS 14=FAILL OF TH/WICKED

VS 15=TH/RED SEA DELIVERANCE - EGYPTIANS SLAIN

VS 16=HAB TREMBLES AT WAT G WIL DO FUTUR
BABYLONIANS WIL CUM, DESTRUCTIN DAY OF TRUBL
BUT HAB IS CONFID G WIL PREVAIL

VS 17=CALAMITY'S BCUZ OF INVASIN, OCUPATIN BY BABS

WAT WUD U DO OR SAY?

NORMAL REACTIN OF WORLD WUD B SAY TO GOD - THANKS FOR NOTHING

THEN NORMAL REACTIN BCUM BITTR TURN AGIN GOD,

WALK RND W/CHIP ON SHOLDER

(ILUS NO CARRY CHIP - "PEOPL MAY THINK IT CAM OFF UR HED")

SUM PEOPL LK WOODEN HEDS, BUT CHIP IS FR/HART

AND WEN CARY chip hard 2C G WORK HIS PURPOS OUT

BUT WE QUESTIN, & QUESTINS DEMAND ANSRS

(ILUS SCIENTIST-LECTUR & CHAUFFEUR GIVS-LECTUR)

TH/QUESTINS WE BRIN TO G, CAN ONLY B ANSR BY HIM HIS OWN WAY

& IN HIS OWN TIME

HE IS TH/EXPERT & MUS TRUST ALL TO HIS CARE & KEEPING

HE INSPIR PAUL TO WRITE-ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHR FOR GUD, TO

THEM THAT LUV G, TO THEM WHO R TH/CALLD ACCORDING TO HIS PURPO

PSALMIST SAYS=TRUST IN TH/L & HE SHAL BRING IT TO PASS

JS SED=LO, I AM W/YOU ALWAYS EVN UNTO TH/END OF TH/WORLD

WE R TOL BY MENTAL HELTH PEO 2LOCK ON BRITE SIDE OF LIFE

B OPTIMISTIC/CHEERFUL IN ORDR SOLV PROBS OF LIF

(ILUS SCOTSMAN & WIFE LEAV & "IT CUDB WORSE")

IN ANY SITUATIN THINGS CUD ALWAYS B WORSE

WAT DID MAN DO WEN FLUD SWEEP AWAY HOUSE???

Y BURST INTO SINGING & TOLD LATR HOW HE REALIZD HE HAD BIN

ALL HIS TIME & MONEY INTO THAT HOME, HE SED IT HAD BCUM HIS

IDOL & G HAD TAKN IT AWAY FR/HIM.

WAT DID 18YR OLD GIRL DO WEN DISCOVR PARLYZED FOR LIF FR/NEK DWN

SHE THANKD G FOR IT. SHE SED DIDNT KNO/UNDRST THIS BUT KNU IT

HAPPN FOR A PURPOSE

(ILUS GREETING CARDS PAINT BY MOUTH - JONI EBRICKSON)

(ILUS BLACK WOMAN & "MUCH OBLIGED LORD")

MANY TIME IN CIRCUMS OF LIF MANY TIMES BLIEV CAN NO GIV THANKS

ONE THING SHUD REMEMBR/INCLUD IN OUR LIST WAT HAB CAM REALIZ

VS 18=SURELY EA US CAN REITERATE THIS

G GAV SALV THRU JS XAP & IF CANT SAY THANKS FOR ANYTH ELSE,

WE CAN SAY THANKS FOR THIS

QUESTIN IS=WAT WIL WE DO WEN EVENTS SUROUND US & IT SEEMS WE

HAV NUTHIN TO GTV THANKS FOR???

LIK WORLD WIL WE SAY=THANKS FOR NOTHING???

OR WIL WE AS PAUL SED=THANKS BE TO GOD WHO GIVETH US TH/VICTRY

THRU OUR L & SAVIOR JS XP, ????

"Thanks For Nothing!"

Scripture: Habakkuk 3

Text: Habakkuk 3:17-18

I have heard that half time during the football games which are on television causes some serious concern for the water companies. I was told that this is the time many, many of the viewing audience use to make use of the bathroom and the flushing of those many toilets causes a sudden need for extra water at the pumping stations. Whether this is true or not I do not know. Just before the Super Bowl I heard an announcer on a Pittsburgh radio station giving instruction to the radio audience that the North and South Sides of Pittsburgh were to use the facilities during the first half and the West and East Sides were to use the during the second half. But whatever the circumstances, one thing is certain, and that is the commercials on TV are usually the occasion most people take to do something else. But there are some commercials which give us the opportunity to do some serious thinking. There is one commercial in particular in which Carl Maldin talks about going on vacation and losing your wallet with all of your money in it. It depicts the wallet falling into the water and dropping to the bottom. While this is taking place he asks the question, "What will you do? What will you do?" Perhaps you have thought about this and have arrived at some solution. But whether you have or not, the commercial is designed to stimulate our thinking so that we arrive at a decision, and hopefully that we will make the necessary purchase to prevent the complete loss of money.

A man stood helplessly by and watched his house and everything he owned being swept away in a flood. What did he do? What would you do?

A young girl at the prime of her young life, ready to step into the new found world of adulthood at 18, dives into the water and suffers a broken neck that completely paralyzes her from the neck on down. What did she do? What would you do?

Circumstances such as these give us pause to consider the seriousness of life. Habakkuk looked at the seriousness of life around him and he came to a conclusion that we all should reach. This third chapter of Habakkuk is a prayer.

It begins in the first verse with just that remark, (read). There are several interpretations as to the meaning of the word "Shigionoth." But the meaning I believe fits is the interpretation of the word to mean, "erring," or "To go astray." The "erring" or "going astray" took place in the lives of the Israelites.

This is why Habakkuk cries out ~~to~~ to God in the 2nd verse as he does, (read). Then he goes on to recount what God had done in the past. He saw God as of old. He ~~picture Him~~ pictures Him as Moses did in Deuteronomy 32:2, in which God is compared to a "Great Light." In all of this ^{chapter} ~~verse~~, in fact in all 3 chapters of this book the prophet has a confident faith and trust in God. He believes that as God has done in the past, so He will do in the future.

~~But through it all there is still that nagging feeling that he is not sure of his own strength and that he is not sure of his own wisdom and that he is not sure of his own ability to stand up to God.~~
~~But as the day comes and he arrives at his~~

Habakkuk recounts all the things that may come to pass in verse 17, (read). And what is his answer? What would you do or say? The normal reaction is to say, "Thanks For Nothing." And we not only may say that, but we may become bitter and turn completely away from anything that smacks or smells of God. Many times this causes someone to walk around with a chip on his shoulder. Someone once said, "Don't walk around with a chip on your shoulder, people may think it came off your head." Some do act like wooden heads, but for the most part the chip is ~~not~~ from the heart. And when we have a chip on the shoulder it is hard to see that even in the face of adversity God is working His purpose out. But there are questions which all of this causes to arise, and those questions demand answers.

(Illustration of scientist, bad cold, chauffeur, and simple question).

The answers to the questions we may bring to God can only be answered by Him in His own way, and in His own time. He is the expert and we must trust all to His care and keeping. So how do we calmly and deliberately do this? We must take Him at His Word. He inspired Paul to write, "All things work together for

~~good, to them who love God, to those who are called according to His~~

good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." ~~He said~~ The Psalmist says to trust in the Lord and He shall bring it to pass. Jesus said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world!" We hear much advice ~~for~~ from the mental health people telling us to look on the bright side of life. We are to be optimistic and cheerful in order to solve the problems of life.

(Illustration of Scotsman and wife leaving, and it could be worse).

We need to know that in all circumstances things could always be worse. But God knows what we can bear and He never gives us more than we can handle. What did the man do when he saw his house washed away by the flood? He burst into singing and told later how he realized that he was putting all of his time and money into that home. He said that it had become an idol and God had taken it away from him.

What did the young girl do when she discovered she was paralyzed for life from the neck down? She thanked God for it and said that although she didn't understand it, she knew it had a purpose. A few weeks ago I received a note from a friend, and that note had a ~~picture~~ copy of a painting on the front. But the unique thing about it is that the picture was painted by that young girl by putting the brush between her teeth and painting it literally with her mouth. If you want to read a thrilling story, read the account of Joni Earickson, the book is in our library.

(Illustration of black woman and "Much obliged Lord")

In all of our circumstances in life there may be many times when we honestly believe there is nothing for which to give thanks. But one thing we should always remember to include in our list and that is what Habakkuk finally came to the realization of as well. He said and wrote, (read verse 18). Surely, each of us can and must reiterate this, "I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." God has provided this salvation for all mankind through Christ and if we can't say "Thanks For Nothing else, we must ~~say~~ say thanks for this. This event and love of God is life itself. What will

you do when the events of life surround you and it seems as though you have
thing for which to give thanks? Will you say as the world does, "Thanks For
Nothing?" Or will you say as Paul has said, "Thanks be to God who giveth us the
victory through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?"

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Boy Scout Sunday February 11, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Sharon Pfabe, Julie Vargo - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Prelude in Fugue in G Minor" J.S. Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 21 "Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Lord Jesus Christ who didst
give Thy life for us that we might receive pardon and
peace, mercifully cleanse us from all sin, and evermore
keep us in Thy favor and love, who livest and reignest
with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world
without end. Amen."
*Kyrrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 254 "Jesus, I live to Thee"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Variation" Anon.
Anthem: "Something Beautiful" Gaither
Scripture: Numbers 14:26-39
Sermon: "SCOUT'S WAGES"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 292 "Onward, Christian soldiers"
*Benediction
Threefold Amen

*Postlude "Improvisations"
----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. George Pflugh in loving memory of their
Daughter "Pam" whose birthdate would of been Feb. 12.
Serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder, John Snow,
Steve Vargo, Gottlob Kradel.
Deacon and Mrs. Harry Burns will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door today.
Nursery will be provided today by Barb Vargo, Sherry
McClimans and Ellen Master.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Lillian Kradel, Mr. Coyle Fowler,
Mrs. O. H. Nicholas (Dorothy), Mrs. Elaine Wogan.
Today - 2:00 P.M. - Church Council Meeting
Tues. - (Feb. 13) - SOUP AND SALAD DAY - get your
tickets after church today at the Brugh Ave. door
or at the door on tuesday. Betty Tressler will be
accepting Bazaar items monday afternoon until 5 or
on Tuesday morning.
We have a yellow and blue tassel cap, pink scarf, grey
wool gloves in the office.
Feb. 25 and March 4 are open for Altar Flowers - if you
wish to have either of these Sundays let Bea know.
Mike Nazaruk and Allen Botacchi will be visiting the
hospital this week.
Wed. - 7:00 - Chancel Choir
Wed. - 6-7 - Junior Choir Practice
Tues. - There is no Bible Study due to S. & S. Day.
Sun. - 6-7 Junior Youth Fellowship (tonight)
Sun. - 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Mr. Edward Weichey - Cleveland Clinic.
15 - Thurs. - Basketball Meridian vs. St. Paul's 6:30
17 - Sat. - Basketball - St. Paul's vs. St. Marys 4:00
(Senior Division)
March 2, 1:30 P.M. - The Fellowship Day of Prayer
sponsored by the Women's Commission of the Butler
Fellowship of Churches will be held on Friday, March
2, at 1:30 P.M., at St. Paul's United Church of
Christ.
Thurs. - Feb. 15 - 6:30 P.M. - Butler Area Laymen's
Dinner at Bethany United Church of Christ. J. Walter
Harmon and Chuck Penar have tickets.
Teachers Training - Feb. 18 - 7-9P.M. "New Testament
Survey" - Contact Pastor or sign up in office.

Scout's Wages"

Scripture: Num. 14:26-39: Text: Num. 14:34

(Illus new employe & how long work here)
I never thin cert compen involv & work get paid
In Bib pt out get pay 4 wat person duz in lif
This port scrip G tel Mos/Aron end result 4peop TS.
vs 27b=herd complain mass peop
vs 29=wat He goin 2do
vs 30=Only Caleb & Joshua 2entr land
Vs 31=Children also promis entranc
vss 33-35=G prom 4 past action they receiv cert wage
& this foloup wat tol Adam=Gen 2:17 (Read)
P say Rom 6:23=Wages of sin is deth
vss 36-37=10 spies die by plague
Recall story of spies, minor/major report
Peop listn 2majorty report & G giv prom this chap
40yrs=1yr ea day;out 600,000 only 2inherit;Caleb/Josh
duzn soun lik gud pay 4job duz it?
But G prom sam 2all, but refus 2tak at word
This story pt up very import aspec lif;explain this
way(Illus man stuk pudl, farmer pul out, haul water)
2 things life=problems & opportunities
Sum lk & C only probs:others lk & C Opportunities
Probs=How get dun, Who pay4, how meet budget, etc etc
Opps=How can this B use 2 G's Glory, wat G want dun et
G want us 2lk 4 opps & He giv ansers if wil 2trust
Eng word hold 4th intrigue & worl mak use everday
(Illus littl boy & word Fascinate)
Wat sel papers? Fascinat 4 morbid, grisly, evil deeds
Why? Bcz lk at thez as probs
If lk as opps wud try help burnout fam, orphan child
say how tragic, insted do wat can in local area
This why Scout's Wages so low=only 2 saw opps G giv
" wat G want from us; He desir 4us 2seiz all ocasion
2expand & 2grow
Ill neighbor, frend brok mariag, lonely=no probs/opps
Wat R we doing about them?
But in this lesn Cal/Josh nother factrpart everday
lif G want us 2use almos mechanicly & withou think
(Illus mountain climber, boulder, only hand 2 walk on)
This Faith; without can no do anythin & if no had
wud not B here this morn
G want tak at word vs 27=sed 2Mos & Aron
Can't U pictur G say bout us? Can hear ask wat we do
He constant cal 2 servic & accpt wat appear probs &
us 2 turn them 2opps 2 do His will
U I Scout 4 G 2day, R go 4th as 10 or as Cal/Josh?
Wage 4 scout R stil same 2day=Rom 6:23b (read)
(Illus 40 Wrestler 4 Xp)=this strngth need st B4 wor
Read vs 38=may B our wag/200 scout folo Xp/C opps only

"Scout's Wages"

Scripture: Numbers 14:26-39

Text: Numbers 14:34

(Illustration of new employee asking other how long he has worked there. The answer: "Ever since the day the foreman threatened to fire me.")

I am sure that we realize that in everything we do there is a certain compensation involved. When we are employed anywhere, we receive pay for doing a certain amount of work. It has been pointed out in the Bible in various ways that what a person does in life determines what his or her compensation will be for those actions.

In the portion of Scripture which we just read we learned of God telling Moses and Aaron what the end result was going to be for the people of Israel. The first thing God tells them is that He has heard the complaining of the mass of the people, vs 27b. Then He tells them what He is going to do vs 29. But there are going to be two who will enter the land and these two are Caleb, and Joshua, vs 29b. Their children are also promised entrance as God states in verse 31. ~~But in order for God to accomplish this it meant that there was a certain way He would punish them. He would employ the sword to punish them.~~

God promised that because of past actions they were going to receive a certain wage, vs 33-35. This is merely a followup of what God had told Adam in the very beginning as we read in Genesis 2:17. Paul elaborates on this further by telling us in Roman 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death." Then we read that the men who were sent to spy out the land all died ~~in~~ by a plague and only Caleb and Joshua were left. This was the 12 spies sent out by Moses to search out the land and to report back on what they had found. If you remember, they did this and the group was split into two. 10 of them told of the giants who inhabited the land and how conditions were horrible and they would all die and be killed. Joshua and Caleb told of the good condition of the land. They even brought back a sample of the produce and it was much greater than any of them could have hoped for. The conditions were pointed out as being ideal for the settling ~~of families~~ and raising of families. The lands were suitable for flocks and herds. But instead of hearing what Caleb and Joshua had to say

show, instead, they listened to the moaners and complainers and thus God gave them the promised pay we read of in this chapter.

Forty years to wander, ~~xxxx~~ a year for each of the days spent in the searching out of the new land. Forty years in which this generation had to pass away. And out of 600,000 people, only 2 were to inherit the promise given by God. It doesn't sound like very good pay for the job does it? But God had promised the same to all of them, but they refused to take Him at His word. This story points up once again a very important aspect of life. Let me explain it this way: (Illustration of man stuck in mud puddle, pulled out by farmer, and farmer tells him he hauls water for the hole at night).

There are two kinds of things which make up much of life. There are ~~tx~~ problems and there are opportunities. For those who view everything as a problem, they are just that, problems. For those who view these so called problems as opportunities, they are the ones who get things done.

Those of life who view things as problems are the ones who stand back and ask all of the unanswerable questions. Questions like, "How are we ever going to get this done? How will we pay for this? How will we meet the budget? How can we possibly do that?" And so on.

Those of life who view these things as opportunities set their hearts and minds to solving them with plans, and thoughts and ideas. And this is what God wants us to do. There are no actual problems which God will let us wallow in. He does and will provide the answers we need if we are willing to trust Him for them. But there is an English word which holds forth intrigue and the world makes much use of it in everyday life.

(Illustration of little boy giving definition of "Fascinate")

What is it that sells newspapers? It is the fascination we have for the sensational, the morbid, the grisly, the ~~xxxxxx~~ evil deeds which defy description. These are the things which intrigue and fascinate. Why? Because we know they are problems and it is easier to look at problems than it is to look at opportunities. It is easier to sit in the comfort of our living rooms and read of a family being routed from their house by a fire, than it is to seize this as

an opportunity to begin getting food and clothing to these people. It is easier to sit in our homes and read of someone who kills his wife and himself leaving a couple orphans, than it is to seize the opportunity to help those in need. In all of these circumstances we sit back and say how tragic, when we should be saying "what can be done?"

This is why the Scout's Wages were such. Out of all of them there were only two who saw the opportunities God had given them to live and expand and to grow. And this is what God wants from us. He desires for us to seize each and every occasion to live for Him. That neighbor who is ill, that friend who is going through a broken marriage, that one who needs someone to talk to; these are not problems, these are opportunities which God is supplying for you and me each day. What are we doing about them?

But in this lesson the Caleb and Joshua there is also another factor which is a part of everyday life which God wants us to use almost mechanically and without thinking.

(Illustration of mountain climber and large boulder, hand to step in etc).

This is faith. Without faith we can do nothing. If we didn't have faith even in the smallest degree we wouldn't be here this morning. But what God wants from us is to have us take Him at His word. He said to Moses and Aaron, vs 27 (read). Can't you picture God saying that about us? Can't you hear Him asking what we are going to do about many things in our lives? He is constantly calling us to service to accept what appears to be problems, and to turn them into opportunities to do His will.

You and I are the scouts for God in this day and age. Are we going to go forth as the 10 and see nothing but problems? Or are we going to go forth and see the opportunities and needs as Joshua and Caleb did? The wages for Scout's are still the same today as they were back then. I mentioned what Paul said about this in Romans 6:23. But I only quoted the beginning of the verse. The verse reads, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." This means walking in the steps of Christ

(Illustration of 100 Roman soldiers, and "40 Wrestlers wrestling for Thee, O Christ, claim for Thee the victory and from Thee the crown.")

This is the strength we need to have to stand before the world. The end of our Scripture for today tells us, (read verse 38). May this be our wages as 20th century scouts for the Lord as we seek to follow in faith through the leading of the Lord in our lives. May we see all problems as opportunities for showing forth Christ to the world.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Brotherhood Sunday February 18, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Lloyd Link and Mrs. Ginger Harbison, Choir Directors
Helen Hilliard, Amy Shakely - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Bells of Arcadia" Couperin
*Processional Hymn No. 11 "Ye servants of God"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Father Almighty, we know that we have gone into hiding, even though we have been made for thy glory. We have tried to keep away from thy presence. Forgive us and bring us one again to the place where we may see thee and sing praises to thy majesty; through Jesus Christ. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Offertory" Heller
Installation of Under Shepherds
Anthem: "Day by Day"
Scripture: Numbers 14:40-45
Sermon: "Rated PG"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 468 "Jesus, Saviour, pilot me"
*Benediction

Threefold Amen
*Postlude "Creds" Haydn

*Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been given by Mrs. Roy Pflugh in memory of her "Husband"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Robbie Vinroe, Steve Smith, Randy Dellen, Bob Dellen and Gordon Kennedy.
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Tait will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Karen Vensel, Dodie Kradel, and Lynn Bosko.
Today - Short meeting after the Service - Council
Today - 1:45 - Junior High Fellowship Roller Skating Meet at Church at 1:45 P.M.
Today - 7:00 P.M. - Youth Fellowship - Kenny Marks Concert tonight at Meridian U. Pres. Church
Tues. - 20th - 7:00 - Bible Study - **JAMES**
Wed. - 7:30 - Golden Circle meeting at Church - Crafts
Thurs. - 10:30 - Mary Martha Circle at Ione Pflugh's.
Fri. - Feb. 23 - Youth Fellowship Ski Trip
Wed. - 6-7 - Youth Choir
Wed. - 7:00- 8:00 - Chancel Choir
Tonight - 7:00 - Teachers Training - Books are in the Office. **TAKE & LOOK OVER. NT SURVEY**
Vacation Bible School preview - Calvary U.P. Church
Tues. Feb. 27th - 7:00 P.M. This is a chance for all Teachers and helpers to see what is available and to help us choose the best course.
Mrs. Elaine Wogan - would like to hank everyone for sending cards and for their thoughts and Prayers during her recent stay in the Hospital.
March 2 - Fellowship Day of Prayer here at our Church. The Offering will go to Easter Seal Crippled Children. (Year of the Child).
Hospitalized: ~~Mr. Coyle Fowler, Mrs. Dorothy Nicholas.~~
William-Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the Hospital this week.
Thurs. - 22nd - 7:00 - St. Pauls vs. St. Marks Basketball (Senior Division)
Your Lenten Material and the Year books that were left over will be delivered to you sometime between today and Ash Wed. Feb. 28. On the 28th (Ash Wed.) we will have Holy Communion at the Altar.
Donn Miller - Long Beach Comm. Hos. 1720 Termino Ave. Long Beach, California 90801 Room 501

"Rated PG"

Scripture: Numbers 14:40-45; Text: Numbers 14:42,43

(Illus Confusion=town of Uncertain, & Big Ugly)

(Illus little girl & SS, dust, & bed, sum1 cum or go)

This is of course confusion & if lk foloup of Scrip
from last wk serious confusion

Is es tol Beuz disobed wud wandr 40yr & no entr Prom
All along taut G with, & now sudenly without G

As pondr events mus hav quest lik ungramatic song
writr=Is U Is, Or Is U Aint My Baby?=or, IS U Is Or
Is U Aint My God?

Perhap cal meet bd of disidents in morn & arriv o
opin in ordr 2get bak gud grac G, wud hav tak actio
& Action norm corse 2folo=go out & inherit land B4 em
Vs 40=situation lk gud, & so decid action need Beuz sin
Vs 41=Mos watchful ldr, tel 2lat hav chang hart & seek
wat G want all along

Vs 42=Mos say=LORD is not among U & this sho they ~~xxx~~
operat complet opposit G set 4th=Num 10:33-36

G with & among with mov of Ark

Thus Mose say=U mov agin wil of G & His protect, Ark
stationary, & U shud B as well

They mov self-wil & go contrary 2wat G want

From this scrip 2 lessons 4us 2 lern

FIRST=we canno forc G's plan 4our livs, He has plan 4
us & we mus conform 2 it, & not othr way around

(Illus of dog pik rite truck 2 get bak home)

I Bliev G reveal sâlf in event lik thez

Wat motivat fdog 2mak rite select drivr & truck?

If we can lk this in lite G direct even animals,
we can understan He mor concern with children folo
His plan 4 their lives

What why mus striv plac livs prop perspec His wil
not ours

Vs 43=Mos pt out enemy B4 them in grt numbers,

But pt out(read)turn agin Lord, & Lord no with U

SECOND=All lif Rated PG & this mean lif need PG 4 all

Without we fal flat faces/with it overcum enemies

But way liv is influ on othr livs, & this gud/evil

(Illus strangr 2 town, ask directions 2town hall)

We canno giv directs any1 if ourselves R lost

(Illus judge & 2 lawyers follow his example)

How many peop folo our examp? R they C lif worhtwhil

Or R they B led astray by pretens liv Xpian lif?

If liv as G inten need underst all lif=PG & in ordr

2m mos G want 4us, mus seek PG daily

Need 2kno if do own thing as Isites=G no among us

If gâv wrong influ on othrs by contrar G wil G no B
with us. Let us resolv ther4; treat lif as B PG &
folo wat Fathr want from & 4us.

"Rated PG"

Scripture: Numbers 14:40-45

Text: Numbers 14:42,43

On the banks of Caddo Lake near the Louisiana border is a little town called Uncertain. Can you imagine what happens when a fellow from there is asked where he lives and he replies, "Uncertain." The other fellow would say, "You mean, you are not certain where you live?" And the fellow would reply, "Oh I'm certain that I live in Uncertain." It would be sort of confusing wouldn't it?

Just the other day I heard of a fellow who read a headline in a newspaper which said, "Big Ugly housewife turns in false alarm." But what it really meant was that in a little town named "Big Ugly," a housewife turned in that alarm.

Things of this nature cause confusion and sometimes the most confusion is caused by what we try to teach our children. A little girl came home from Sunday School and she said, "Mother, we learned at Sunday School that we came from dust and we go back to dust. Is that true?" The mother answered, "Yes dear, anything you learn at Sunday School is true." The little girl then remarked, "Well, I just looked under my bed and somebody is either coming or going."

This of course is confusion. And as we look at ~~the~~ what amounts to a follow-up of our Scripture of last week we can see there is some confusion here as well.

The Israelites had been told that because of their disobedience they were doomed to wander for 40 years and would not enter the promised land. Only their children 20 years and younger would enter it. All along they had been taught that God was with them and now suddenly they were without God. As they pondered this turn of events they must have been asking the question which the ungrammatical song writer of some years back asked, "Is you is, or is you aint my baby?" But they must have been asking, "Is you is or is you aint my God?" Perhaps they called for a meeting of the board of idssidents early in the morning and ~~it was xxxxxx~~ they arrived at the opinion that in order to get back into the good graces of God they would have to take action. The action which appeared to be the normal course to follow was to go out and to inherit the land before them. So it is we read in the 40th verse that they looked upon their situation on that mountain and it looked promising, so they decided that action ~~needed~~ because of their sin, (read verse 40).

But Moses, the ever watchful leader said to them, (read verse 41). In other words he was telling them that it was too late to have a change of heart and

seek to do what God wanted to do all along. His main argument against their forward motion was, as found in verse 42a, "The Lord is not among you."

This should have had a special effect upon these people because it meant that they were operating in complete opposition to what God had set forth for them. We read in Numbers 10:33-36, (read this). Here we can see that God was with them and among them with the moving of the Ark. So what Moses is saying to them is simply, "You are moving forward without the protection of God being with you and the Ark is stationary and so you should be as well." They were moving on their own self-will and going contrary to what God wanted for them at this point. From this particular portion of Scripture there are two very good lessons for us to learn. The first has to do with doing what we feel like doing. We must understand that we cannot force God's plan for our lives. He has His plan and we must conform to it, ~~not try to force our own~~ and not the other way around.

(Illustration of dog picking right truck, made wrong turn in blizzard, right house) Believe that God reveals Himself to us in such events like these. What motivated that dog to make just the right selection of truck and drivers? If we look at it from the light of God directing even the moves of animals we can know that He is more concerned with His children following His plan for their lives. That is why we must strive to place our lives in proper perspective according to His Will and not ours.

Moses pointed out to the Israelites that their enemies were before them in great numbers. ~~But~~ (read verse 43). But the one thing he was certain to point out was "they had turned against the Lord, and the Lord will not be with you." Here is the second lesson for us as well. It is that all of life is "Rated PG". This means that life needs that Parental Guidance for us to follow. Without it we fall flat on our faces. With it we can overcome all enemies and obstacles. But the very way we live is an influence on the lives of others. We can either be an influence ~~for~~ for good, or we can be an influence for evil.

~~(Illustration of speaker wanting directions to the Town Hall, speaking on heaven and two boys will not attend because he can't find Town Hall)~~

(Illustration of speaker wanting directions to the Town Hall, speaking on heaven and two boys will not attend because he can't find Town Hall)

This points out that we cannot possibly direct anyone in the right direction
we ourselves are lost.

(Illustration of Judge and two young lawyers following his example)

How many people are following our example? Are they seeing a life being lived
that is worthwhile? Or are they instead being led astray because of pretense
at living the Christian life?

If we are to live life as God intended it to be lived, we need to understand
that all of life is "Rated PG," and in order to make the most of what God
would have for each of us we must seek His Parental Guidance daily. We need to
know that if we are going to do our own thing such as the Israelites did, God
is not among us. And if we are going to be a wrong influence on others by
doing things contrary to God's will, God will not be with us.

Let us each resolve therefore that we will treat life as being "Rated PG" and
follow what our Father wants from us and for us.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Eighth Sunday After Epiphany February 25, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Helen Hilliard, Amy Shakely - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Sonata II" Mendelssohn
*Processional Hymn No. 3 "Praise, my soul"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Mighty God, by your power is Christ raised from death to rule this world with love. We confess that we have not believed in Him, but fall into doubt and fear. Gladness has no home in our hearts, and gratitude is slight. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ who was dead but lives, and will put down every power that hurts or destroys, when your promised kingdom comes. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 212 "Jesus, we are far away"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Ave Verum" Mozart
Teacher's Training Recognition
Anthem: "The Lord is a Mighty God" Mendelssohn
Sung by the Chancel Choir
Scripture: Numbers 20: 14-21
Sermon: "The Royal Road"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 462 "Jesus, keep me near the cross"
*Benediction
Threefold Amen
*Postlude "Spirit of God" Bennett
----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by the Fidelity Bible Class in memory of past members. Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Davis will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Cindy McWilliams, Pam Fry and Debora Johnston.
Hospitalized - Roy Andrews - Citizens General - New Kensington.
Holy Communion - Ash Wednesday - Altar at 7:30
Friday - Fellowship Day of Prayer here at our Church. 1:30 P.M. - The offering will go to Easter Seal Crippled Children. (Year of the Child).
Cyndie Sybert and Mr. Howard Bolam will sing solos.
Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be visiting the Hospital this week.
Next Sunday - March 4 is open for Altar Flowers. If you would like to have this particular Sunday get in touch with Bea.
Tonight - 7:00 - Teachers's Training
Tuesday - 7:00 - Bible Study JAMES
We will be taking in new Members on Palm Sunday. If you know of anyone interested in coming into the Church - please let the Pastor know or put a slip in the Offering plate.
Mrs. Harry Burns is re-organizing the Prayer List in our Church. If you are interested in being a part of it - please contact her at 287-3434.

Father, give us the Spirit Your Son has promised us; to make us honest people again; to know and face the truth; to see ourselves and cease from laying out defections at your door; to see your only goodness in our desperate need of you. Forgive us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"The Royal Road"

Scripture: Num. 20:14-21; Text: Num. 14:17

Sem. It. Js gav practical instruct Bcz concern 4 err
teach relig ldrs=Mt 7:13-14 (READ), choice B4 peop
Rd lif stetch B4 us & many tim wish cud B dif, feel
l. (Illus elevator operator & wise remarks)
If provid few jerks 4 all us & all wish lif smooth
But if underst lif, kno no prom bed roses
Peop Is. foun aft lv Egypt compartiv safty
May bin slav, endur hardshp & phys labr, but had sever
suar meal day, roof ovr heds, clothes etc.
Now here G 4sakh plac & doom 2wandr 40yr & 2 top
off, no allow 2 travl reg rd which mak easier
But wat mak wors own bros refus them=Vs 14 (READ)
No figur speech, Edomites direc descen Esau=Jacob Bros
vss 14-16=past histry (read)
vs 17=Mos mak request of them
vs 18=refus pasag undr thret war
vs 19=Peop Is. plead & prom 2repay anything they use
vs 20=Edom refus agin & read they turn from Edomites
& from travel "Kings Highway"
K's Hiway=rte travl tradrs with royal permission
travl grant by prom no touch cultiv land & pay 4
all requir on rd, & caus no inconven 2anybody
Rd ran Damascus 2 Gulf Aqabah & conec rds led acros
Negeb 2ward coastl rte Phoenicia 2 Egypt
Archology who line 4treses along it
1st 1's destroy CHEDORLAOMER & alys pik 1 twm aft noth
along way & this record Gen 14
So here delema peop Is, cum 2 pt want 2folo G, but
stymy by group keep from travl rd shud B on
ek 2folo Royal Rd, but thwart attempt
(Illus Ox & Mule & Ox play sik)
This choic Ox made wen play sik & Isites in this boat
If go K's Hiway=without permis=slautered
" " other way, hazardous & hard, but mus choos
So made choice & evn tho no travl K's Hiway, in essen
travl wat amt 2 Royal Rd or G's Hiway
& lif lik this 4any1 who want folo footstep King
Determin need lik Mos say=vs 17c (No Turn but folo
footstpes Js Xp & Royal Rd He set B4 us
But as travl, find stumbl block 1 kind nother
(Illus Codfish & Catfish)
That, Catfish mayB sum1 work, relativ, Ch membr
They try patienc, test self-comtrol but help matur
W need thank G 4thm, him, her
Wen travl Royl Rd sumtim feel alone (Illus Fr. Damien)
We all felo pilgrim on rd & may no hav wat othrs hav
but all sufr pain, sorro, grief, probs but if lk about

we C bless in many ways Byon wat we deserv
(Illus 4giv me when I whine)
Can we not C thru all this lif ther constan rem'ir
G's luv 4us no matr wat circumstanc?
Can we not experienc joy that ours as folo King on
Royal Road?
If not then need 2Bgin 2day tak inventory our l
lives families,
& wen honestly & truthfully dun this, get on knees
& thank G 4 all we hav & are
Let us travel K's Hiway walk Bside King Js Xp, &
let us resolv lik Mos=Vs 17c=no turn 2rt hand or
2left,,
But in all this follo where He leads us

"The Royal Road"

Scripture: Numbers 20:14-21

Text: Numbers 20:17

In the sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave much in the way of practical instruction. He was concerned for the people because of much erroneous ~~xx~~ religious instruction which had come forth from their religious leaders and teachers. So it is that in the 7th chapter of Matthew, the 13th and 14th verses we read of a choice which Jesus set before the people. (Read this portion of Scripture). The road of life stretches before each one of us and there are many times ~~such~~ ~~times of our secretly wishes that~~ when we may wish perhaps that things might be different for us. We may feel sometimes like the elevator operator who was constantly having to endure wise remarks from the passengers. I am sure most of us can remember when elevators had people who operated them. This particular young lady had heard many supposedly witty remarks about elevators this particular day, and so when yet another wise guy said to her, "You sure have your ups and downs a day's time don't you?" , she remarked, "It's not the ups and downs that bother me, it's the jerks."

Well life provides a few jerks for all of us and there are many times we wish life would be just a little smoother. But if we really understand life at all, we know that no where have we ever been promised that life was to be a bed of roses. The people of Israel found this out in short order when they left the comparative safety of Egypt. They may have been slaves while living in that nation, and they may have had to endure many hardships as well as actual hard physical labor. But, they at least had several square meals a day and a roof over their heads, and clothes when the old ones ~~were~~ wore out. But here they were now in this God-forsaken place and doomed to wander for 40 years. But to top it all off they were now being refused permission to travel on the regular road which would have made their travels so much easier.

But to make matters that much worse and add insult to injury, they were being refused entrance to the "Royal Road," by none other than their own brothers. We read in verse 14, Moses refers to the ~~Edomites~~ Israelites as brothers of Edom, (read this). This was not a figure of speech, for the Edomites were direct

descendants of Esau, Jacob's brother. Moses then relates to these Edomites a portion of their past history, vss. 14c to 16, (read). Then he makes a request of them, vs 17, (read).

~~at~~ The people of Edom refuse to grant them passage, under threat of war, vs 18. But the people of Israel plead with them, promising to repay anything they use, vs 19. But Edom refuses them again, vs 20, and we read that they were turned away from the Edomites and from traveling on the "King's Highway."

Now this "King's Highway" was a route passed by traders with royal permission. Travel on it was granted by making the promise that the travelers would not touch cultivated land and would pay for all they required on the road, and would cause no inconvenience to anybody.

This road ran from Damascus to the Gulf of Aqabah. It connected with the roads that led across the Negeb toward the coastal ~~xxxxxx~~ route from Phoenicia to Egypt. ~~xxx~~ Archaeology has shown there was a line of fortresses along it. It has also shown that the first ones were destroyed by Chedorlaomer and his allies, who picked off one town after another as they traveled down this road. This is recorded in the 14th chapter of Genesis if you care to read about it.

So here we have the dilemma of the people of Israel. They have come to the point where they want to follow what God wants, but they are being stymied by a group of people who are keeping them from traveling the road they should be on. They are seeking to follow "The Royal Road," but are being thwarted in the attempt. As we look at this good illustration for us we can see the dilemma they faced. ~~They knew that no matter which choice they made certain circumstances would take place~~

(Illustration of Ox and Mule, and Ox playing sick)

The Ox had made a choice of playing sick and although he probably had not counted on being butchered that course was open because of his actions. This is much like the Israelites faced with their choice. They knew that no matter what they did certain events were going to happen to and for them. They knew for instance that if they chose to follow the "King's Highway" without permission of the

Edomites they were going to have a fight on their hands. They also knew that if they sought to follow another route that it would be hazardous and hard. But they had to choose. And so they made their choice to go around and attempt another route. But in this they were following the Lord's bidding and even though they were not traveling on the actual "King's Highway," in essence they were traveling the Royal Road, which amounts to God's Highway.

But life is much like this for anyone who wants to follow in the footsteps of the King. The determination needed is exactly like Moses imparted to the Edomites, "We will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed the borders." This should mean and imply for all of us that we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and follow "The Royal Road" He has set before us.

But as we travel "The Royal Road" we often find stumbling blocks of one kind or another.

(Illustration Godfish and Catfish)

God sometimes allows a catfish into our lives to make us stronger. That catfish may be someone we work with. Or it might be a relative, or someone we have considered a close friend. It may be someone who is also a member of the same church we belong to. They try our patience, they test our self-control but it helps us to mature and grow. We need to pray for them, but we also need to thank God for him or her, or them.

And there is one other thing which this travel on "The Royal Road" makes us aware of, and that is so often we feel like we are alone and there is no one else.

(Illustration of Father Damien and becoming leper on Molokai island)

We are all fellow pilgrims on the road. We may not have what some others have but we need to know that we all share pain, and sorrow, and grief, and problems of all kinds. But if we look about us we can see that in so many ways we are blessed beyond what we deserve. Someone shared a little piece of poetry with me which should make each of us look at what we have, who we are, and then thank God for His many blessing in our lives.

(Illustration of Forgive Me When I Whine)

Can we not see and understand that through all of this life which we are living there is that constant reminder of God's love for us whatever our circumstances? Can we not experience the joy that is ours as we seek to follow our King on "The Royal Road?"

If we cannot, then we need to begin today by just taking inventory of our lives and the lives of our families. And when we have done that in all honesty and truthfulness, then we must of necessity get on our knees and thank God for all that we have and are.

Let us travel the "King's Highway" walking beside our King Jesus Christ, and let us, resolve that we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, (vs 17).

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Wednesday February 28, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. KAY Morris, ORGANIST and CHOIR DIRECTOR

HOLY COMMUNION - 7:30 P. M.

Prelude "The Cross" Morris
*Processional Hymn 17 "I sing the praise of love unbounded"
*Call to Worship "I bind my Heart"
*A Scripture - Choral Amen
*Communion Service - Page 32
Exhortation - Confession - Absolution
Responsive Reading NO. 27 Page 578
Announcements
Offering
Offertory
Duet: "I Come to the Garden"
Norma Knauer and Evie Dellen
Scripture: Exodus 27:9-19
Sermon: "Shadow To Reality: Gate"
Communion Hymn 338 "According to Thy gracious word"
*Communion Service - Page 33
Eucharistic Prayer - Seraphic Hymn
Institution and Consecration of Elements
Agnus Dei
Holy Communion (Altar)
*Prayer of Thanksgiving
*Doxology
*Hymn of Dedication No. 60 "Saviour, breathe an evening
blessing"
*Benediction and Choral Response "Christ, We Do All
Adore Thee"
*Postlude "Jesus, Keep me" Morris - Dubois
----- *Congregation Standing -----
Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this evening.
Elders Allen Botacchi and Paul Campbell, DEacons
Harry Burns and Art Carney will serve Communion
(also serve as Ushers this evening.
Put an address on Comm. cards if you want to have it
sent to another church for the communion record.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - FEBRUARY 18, 1996

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS
LENT BEGINS WED. - TODAY CELEBRATE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 27:9-19
SERMON: "SHADOW TO REALITY: THE GATE"
BUTLER, ST. PAUL'S - 2/28/79
XXXXXX
THE LORD'S SUPPER
*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE
EVIE
DALE/OTHERS WORK/JOB
BOB/LENAO
BILL HARKER & FAMILY
LENAO - LENA
TWILA
VAUGHN
CONGREGATION
VIRGIL - CAROL

"Shadow to Reality: Gate
Scripture: Ex. 27:9-19; Text: Ex 27:16

B4 P^{ain} ask any Bliev OT obsolete?? Examp=Meth preeac
If no ges I hav lov OT serrl reas:Jok me part Jew
I luv OT Bcuz roots ther as Xpian & this respec can
ident with Alex Haley 2seek wher cum from
2 out off OT Bcuz irrel lik cut lft hand Bcuz rt har
Need 2 lk Bneath surr OT 4selvs & Bgin unend serch
50's,60's all preach Paul,why,how,did this etc
Then I Bgin hungryful revel G & serch Bgun no end
I pray U do likwis & C nu revel G thruout Bible
Read:Ex 25-31 & 35-40 command 2 bild Tab./& then did
Canno covr all,wud need yr & perhap cud B. study
4 Is Tab made 4 purp reveal many object lesns
4us it revel redemp thru Xp & can C Js Xp reveal ea
item long B4 step on scene
Amt 2 wat ince Shadow,now Reality:thus=SHADO 2 REAI
2nite=GATE=(read 16th vs
Court=outr cort suroun H Plac,Holy,Holies
Had fenc aroun & cort was 150 X 75 feet
At Eastern end had GATE
Red Scrip cort fenc 2B Fine Twin Linen & Linen pt out
book Revel=Righeousness:thus encircl rtnes G demands
Only 1 GATE,Eastrn end,no1 cud scal wal own rtness
Had 2 cum thru Gate G provid
Fenc stud 7½ ft hi,pilars interv set bras sock
Dif Btween linen fenc & linen Gate & this was colors
Vs 16b=color set 4th invite 2entr & ident Xp 4us
Blue=colr hvn,sigfy Xp heavnly character
Purple=Scarlet & Blu mix & sigfy royalty=Js King
This mixtur also sigfycombin hvnly natur with sacr:
4 sin & this gav Xp kingship entir univers
S^{car}let,(Red)=colr blud & lk ahed 2 Js sacri 4sin
White*(Fine twin lin)=perfectn Js Xp is & was
Thez colrs also door 2 H Plac,& Veil conceal H ofH
& sig only access 2 G is thru Js Xp
Gate upheld by 4 pilrd typ Xp as reveal 4 Gosp write:
How cud peop cuum B4 G?
1st=thru Gate=Js sed (Read Jn 10:1,2,9
All mus cum thru Gate & as Isites cam with offs,
which trespass/sin off,ment acknowledg sinners
So must we=hav sin 4giv mus repent & this mean tu
They knu cud no climb White fenc Bcuz violate turn
riteousnes of G & this even wors sin
No stan B4 G withou mak acknowl sin,& sinr
we C Gate of Tab ope way 4 peop Is cum 2 G 4
mens,so we can C G ope way 4 us thru sacrif Xp
All this sho continu luy G:Js sed=I am way,truth,lif
no man sum 2 Fther but by me, but also sed, Cum un2
me all ye labr & hvy lad & I wil giv rest & this inv
2 step thru Gate in humil,penit,repent sin & B clens
& givn thru comun with Him,CUM LET US JOIN 2GETHR

JN 10:1-2, 9

BUT TO CUM THRU TH/GATE, THEY WER 2BRING AN OFFRING
THEZ WER CALLD 'TRESPASS' OR 'SIN OFFRINGS'

2DO THIS MENT THEY WER ACKNOWLEDG THEY WER SINNRS

2P W SIN 4GIVN MENT THEY HAD 2REPENT OF IT

KN FR/IT 2B 4GIVN

THE: KNU THEY CUDNT CLIMB TH/WHITE FENC, 2DO SO WUD VIOLAT THE
RITUSNES OF GOD & CUDNT DO THAT

NO WAY CUD THEY STAN B4 G W/OUT MAK ACKNOWLEDG OF B SINNRS &
REPENT OF SINS & SEEK G'S CLENSING FR/THEM

SO WEN WE C THEN THAT TH/GATE OF TH/TABRACL OPEND TH/WAY
FOR TH/PEOP OF ISRAEL 2CUM 2 GOD 4CLENSING SO WE CAN C GOD
HAS OPND TH/WAY 4US THRU TH/SAC OF JS XP

ALL OF THIS IS TH/CONTINUAL LIV OF GOD SHOWING 4TH

JS SED=I AM TH/WAY TH/TRUTH & TH/LIFE, NO MAN CUMETH UNTO THE
FATHER BUT BY ME

ALSO SED=CUM UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOR & R HEAVY LADEN & I WIL
GIV U REST

THIS IS TH/INVITATIN 2STEP THRU THAT GATE WH/BIN PROVIDED BY
HIMSELF

WE R 2CUM IN HUMILTY & PENITENC, REPENT OF OUR SIN & THEN 2KNOW
TH/CLENSING WH/TAKS PLAC THRU COMUNION W/HIM

CUM, LET US ENTR THAT GATE & JOIN HIM AT HIS TABL TODAY

SCRIP: EX 27:9-19; SERM: "SHADOW TO REALITY: THE GATE"

METH MINSTR & VIEW OF OLD TESTAMENT

50' - 60's PREACH ON APOSTL PAUL

IF U WENT CH THEN U LERND WHY PREACH/TEACH HERE/THER, OR
WY SED THIS/THAT ETC.

BQ THIS EMPH BGAN HAV HUNGR 4REV G'S PLAN THRUOUT BIBL
SO QUEST BGAN IN OT & HAV FND FASINATIN FOR OT

HAV PREACH RATHR EXTENSIVLY ON OT & SUMONE JOKINGLY SED-(I HOPE
U MUSB PART JEWISH BCUZ U PR MOR FR/OT THAN NT

VALENTINE=ROSES R RED, VIOLETS R BLUISH, IF WERNT FOR JS WE'D

ALL B JEWISH

LAS WK SPCK BOUT TABRACL, THIS WK LK AT PART OF TAB AS BGIN
LENTEN SERVICES

WE R NOT GO THRU ALL OF TAB, CUD TAK YR OF SERMS, & CUD B BORING

PERHAPS CUD HAV BIBL STUDY BOUT IT SUMTIME

FOR ISR TAB WAS FOR PURP REVEAL G'S OBJEC LESSNS

G'S PLAN FOR THER REDEMPTIN

4US IT IS TH/REVELATIN OF OUR REDEMPTIN THRU XP

WE CAN C IN EA ITEM JS XP REVEALD LONG B4EVER STEP ON SCENE
2DAY WE R LOOKING AT TH/GATE VSS 9-15

VS 9-15 THIS CORT WAS OUTR CORT WH/SURROUND TH/HOLY PL, & H OF H
CORT HAD FENC COMPL RND IT & CORT WAS 150 FT X 75 FT

AT EASTRN END OF CORT WAS 2B A GATE

VS 11=CURTINS FINE LINEN - VS 9B

LINEN=REPS RITUSNES AS PT OUT SEVRL TIME BK REVELATIN
THUS FINE TWIND LINEN CURTIN WH/ENCIRCL TH/CORT W/THE RITUSNES
WH/GOD DEMANDS

THER ONLY ONE GATE AT EASTRN END SO NO ONE CUD SCAL WAL OF

RITUSNES ON HIS OWN, BUT HAD TO CUM THRU GATE GOD PROVIDED

THIS FENC OR CURTIN STUD 7 1/2 FT IN HGHT & AT INTERVALS THER
WER PILLRS, OR POLES SET IN BRAS SOCKET 2HOLD IT UP

BUT THER DIF OF LINEN TWEEN FENC & LINEN OF GATE - COLORS

VS 16=THEZ COLORS SET 4TH INVIT 2ENTR & IDENTIFY JS XP 4US

BLUE=COLOR OF HVN & SIGFY XP'S HVNLY CHARACTR

PURPL=COMBINATIN SCARLET & BLUE & ASOCIAT W/ROYLTY-JS WAS/IS KING

MIXTUR SCAR/BLUE COMBIN HVNLY NATUR W/SACRIF 4SIN & THIS GIV
XP KINGSHIP OF ENTIR UNIVRS

SCARLET/RED=COLOR OF BLUD & THIS COLOR IN GATE LK AHED 2JS AS

SAC FOR SIN

WHITE=OR AS DEFIN 'FINE TWIN LIN' SYMBOLIZ PERFECTIN JS WAS/IS
COLORS OF GATE WER ALSO IN DOR OF HOLY PLCE & IN VEIL CONCEAL

H OF HOLIES AS WEL AS B SAME MATERIAL

ALL THEZ SIGFY 4US TH/ONLY ACES 2 GOD IS THRU JS XP

GATE UPHELD BY 4PILLRS OF BRAS IS TYP OF XP AS REVEAL THRU

4 GOSPEL WRITRS

SO HOW CUD TH/PEOPL CUM B4 GOD?? ON LY THRU TH/GATE

JS TELS US JN 10:1-2, 9 - READ THIS

"Shadow To Reality: Gate"

Scripture: Exodus 27:9-19

Text: Exodus 27:16

Before we begin I would like to ask if there are any of you who have felt or believed that the Old Testament is outdated and no longer of value. You can be ~~xxxxxx~~ honest because we are not taking names or keeping this for future reference. I ask this because a Methodist minister I worked and served with in the central part of the state informed his congregation that the Old Testament had no more value and therefore as far as he was concerned it was not a part of the Bible.

If you have guessed it by now I have a love for the Old Testament for several reasons. Someone jokingly, (at least I think he was joking), said to me, "You must be part Jewish because you preach more from the Old Testament than from the New." That may well be. But the reason I have such a love for the Old Testament is because it is in the Old Testament that we have our roots as

Christians. In this respect I can identify with Alex Haley in seeking to ~~identifi~~ identify where we have come from. To shut off the Old Testament as being irrelevant would be ~~ix~~ similar to saying we may as well cut off our ~~right~~ left hand because we are right handed or vice versa. To dispose of the Old Testament and use the New exclusively is to defraud ourselves of the rich background which goes into our Christian faith. If we seek to look beneath the ^{each} surface of what is being said and done in the Old Testament we can develop not only a love for our roots there, but can begin an unending search for the answers which God has provided in those books.

In the 1950's and 60's most of the preaching in churches was done on the Apostle Paul. If you attended services then you heard all about why he preached here, or said this and that, where he preached, his life and so on. ~~xxxxxxwasnt~~ ~~about Paul it had to do~~ And because of this emphasis I began to have a hunger for the whys and wherefores which brought ~~Paul~~ about the revelation of God and His plan throughout the entire Bible. Thus, for me a search has begun which has no end and each excursion into the purpose and meaning of what took place in the Old Testament turns up new ideas and truths daily.

I would pray thatf ~~for each of you~~ each of you would begin with me this Lent search that can not only stimulate your growth and thinking but can give all of us a new awareness of how God sought to reveal Himself long before He came in the person of Jesus Christ. I would urge you to read through Chapters 25 through 31 in Exodus. Do it slowly and ~~without~~ without hurry so you can grasp it as you go along. If you read Exodus chapters 25 through 40 you will read how the commands of God were carried out in the building of the Tabernacle. We cannot possibly cover all that could be said about each minute part of the Tabernacle and its furnishings. To do so would require at least a year of sermons. Perhaps we could do this as a Bible study at some time and even reconstruct a model of it.

For Israel the Tabernacle was made for the purpose of revealing through many object lessons, God's plan for their redemption. For us it is the revelation of our redemption through Christ. We can see in each item Jesus Christ revealed long before He ever stepped upon the scene. It amounts to what was once a Shadow, has now become a Reality. Thus, "Shadow To Reality," and tonight we will look briefly at the "Gate."

We read in the 16th verse, "And for the gate of the court." This court was the outer court which surrounded the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies. The court had a fence completely around it and the court itself was 150 feet by 75 feet. At the Eastern end of this court was to be a Gate.

We read in our scripture that the court was to have a fence of curtains made of fine linen. Linen ~~is~~ represents Righteousness as pointed out several times in the book of Revelation. Thus the fine twined linen curtain encircled the court with the righteousness which God demands. There was only one Gate and that ^{was} at the Eastern end so no one could scale the wall of righteousness on his own, but had to come through the gate which God provided. This fence or curtain stood 7½ feet in height and at intervals there were pillars, or poles set in a brass socket to hold it up.

But there was a difference between the linen of the fence and the linen of the gate and that difference had to do with colors. ~~The fence was without color~~

~~and thus gave no invitation to enter~~ But the gate itself was to be of,

Blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen," (read vs 16b).

These colors set forth an invitation to enter and as we see them they can identify Jesus Christ for us. Blue is the color of heaven and signifies Christ's heavenly character. Purple is a combination of scarlet and blue and is associated with royalty, and Jesus Christ was and is a King. The mixture of blue and scarlet making ~~xxxx~~ purple also points to a mixture of the combining of the heavenly nature with the sacrifice for sin, and this gave Christ the Kingship of the entire universe.

Scarlet or red, is the color of blood and this color in the gate looked ahead to Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. White, or as is simply defined, "Fine twined linen," symbolizes perfection which is what Jesus Christ was and is.

The colors in the gate ~~and the~~ were also in the door to the Holy Place and in the veil which concealed the Holy of Holies, as well as the being of the

These signify for us
same material. ~~This signified~~ that the only access to God is through Jesus Christ.

The gate upheld by the four pillars of brass is a type of Christ as He is revealed through the four Gospel writers. But how could the people come before God? The only way first of all was to come through the "Gate." Jesus said, ~~xxxxxxx~~ in the 10th chapter of John verses 1-2 and 9, (read).

This means that all who want to come to God must come through the Gate. For the Israelites it also meant that they had to come with an offering which was called Trespass offerings or Sin offerings. To do this meant that they were coming acknowledging they were sinners. To have the sin forgiven meant that they had to repent of it. To ~~xxxx~~ turn from it in order to be forgiven.

They knew they could not climb the ~~xxxxx~~ White fence, for to do so was to violate the righteousness of God and they could not do that. No way could they stand before God without making the acknowledgement of being sinners, repenting of these sins, and seeking God's cleansing from them.

And when we see then that the "Gate" of the Tabernacle opened the way for the people of Israel to come to God for cleansing, so we can see that God has

opened the way for us through the sacrifice of Christ.

all of this is the continual love of God showing forth. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the father but by me." But He also said, "Come ~~xxxx~~ unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." This is the invitation to step through that Gate which has been provided by Him and to come in humility and penitence, repenting of our sin, and then to know the cleansing which takes place through Communion with Him. Come, let us enter that Gate and join Him at His Table.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
First Sunday in Lent March 4, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Tim Fry and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude: "Prelude on 'Slane'" Young
*Processional Hymn No. 7 "Rejoice, ye pure in heart"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Our Father, in this season of self-discipline, when we are giving thought to our discipleship, make us aware that being a disciple means to follow Jesus Christ as He seeks to be a servant of all. Thus we would remember: all our sins that keep us apart from you; all of the things we have omitted to do in our lives; all of the chances we have missed to help others and to seek them for your kingdom. For all of these things as well as others that may separate us from your love, we ask forgiveness in His name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 213 "O Lord, turn not Thy face away"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Nicea" Willan
Baptism of Child - Lindsay Anne Smith - Born Jan. 26, 1979
Daughter of Richard "Moe" Smith and Cynthia Stepp Smith
Anthem: "God so Loved the World" Stainer
Scripture: Deuteronomy 1:1-8

Sermon: "Dead Or Alive?"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 318 "Nearer, my God, to Thee"
*Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin
*Benediction
*Postlude Morris

*Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Gottlob Kradel in memory of Gottlob's Brother - Herman and Alta's Brother - Dean Hoon. Serving as Ushers today are: * Allen Botacchi, Dan Bosko, Robert Kanuer, and Charles Penar. They will also serve as Ushers on Wednesday evening. Deacon and Mrs. George Eichhorn will greet the Congregation and Visitors at the door today. Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Linda McMillin, Robin Knauer, and Lori Zavacky.
Mon. - 7:30 - Women's Mary Prugh Circle meeting.
Tonight - 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship
Tonight - 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Wed. - 6-7 - Youth Choir: 6:30 - Chancel Choir
Wed. - 8:30 - Council Meeting after the Lenten Service
Wed. - 7:30 - Lenten Service.
LeRoy Andrews - Citizens General - New Kensington. *WILHEA FINE*
Men's Good Friday Fellowship Breakfast - YMCA - April 13, 1979 at 6:00 A.M. Guest Speaker - Father John Ayoub, Holy Sepulcher Church - Price \$1.50 - See Kenneth Weitzel for tickets.
Mrs. Paul Ritter would like to thank the people for the beautiful cards, also the flowers while she was in the hospital. She would like to thank Rev. Link very much.
Mrs. Judy Shearer would like to thank the Congregation for their Prayers, those that visited and for their get well cards while she was in the hospital.
The Kradels would like to thank the Congregation for their cards, prayers and etc during the illness and death of Lillian Kradel.
Tues. - 7:00 - Bible Study
Bible Reading 1 - Numbers 27,28,29; Mark 8
2 - Numbers 30, 31 and Mark 9; 3 - Numbers 32,22 and Mark 10; 4 - Numbers 34,35,36 and Mark 11; 5 - Deuteronomy 1, 2 and Mark 12; 6 - Deuteronomy 3,4, Psalm 36 and Mark 13

"Dead Or Alive?"
Scrip: Deut 1:1-8; Text: Deut 1:8

(Illus pys & speciliz insecur peop=couch seat belt)
Pe Is very insecur pt Scrip as shal C shortly
" " now reach From Land, this sid Jord & cud lk cro
cross futur homeland zB
I t=2nd law & contain mostly Mos discors B4 cross
Jord & this bk quot mor by Js any othr OT book
thing stan out=G's luv;peops pbedience
Vs 1=PLAIN=Arabab sum translat & mean plain/refer 2
valy Sea Galilee & Gulf Aqabah
vs 2=startl nus many peop no kno=Can U underst mean?
40 yrs 2accomplish wat cud takn less 2 wks
this result unBlief,disobed & shud help C insecur
Vss 3-5=Concern wat need 2 do
Vs 6=Direct commands from God
Vss 7-8=they 2go 4th & tak land as prom 2 Fathers
So C mix-up peop stan gaz wat 2B homland 4 rest live
& wat will do? Do they defy G? Do they argu they
no kno land & peop?
Base pas experi wud seem they do this & also base
past experi can C made choics lef DED to G's prom
Joy 4them,& ALIVE 2 punish wilful disoo entailed
As lk ancient event wat implics 4 our own livs?
1st=Mt. Sinai G prep peop clear cut task=TO GO &
possess THE LAND
In any area lif 2kno wat 2do is half battl & they
knu this
(Illus farmer, mule with long ears)
May not bin smartest man worl, but had gud idea sum
thin need dun & he try 2do 2solv prob
How oft we lik Isites & quest posit in lif, rather
seek way mov direct G wants us 2mov
(Illus painting cattle boat & Changing Pastures)
Even cynicl K Sol ident as precher ECCL. sed midst
cynicism=Ecc. 8:12 (read)
out of aflic cum valub lesns 4us 2lern & 2gro closr
Snow & ice=replenish watr 4us/ruf win fastn oak, mapl
G has plan, purp ea ever thin U & I think disaster
2nd=Not only wat 2do, but ~~xxx~~ 2do it
this not only tak desir, but also zB prep 4it
(Illus Nu Xpian & tel farmr of revival, judgment day)
May not had all equip, but at least out among them
U & I can no say no equip, Bcuz hav Word of G
if hav nos in shuc B discovr G want us liv 4 Him
If say hav no tim, need lk livs & C top hvy do 4selvs
& sed do 4 G & lk His Word 4 help
(Illus low score basketbal game) won but los & rob
of joy of full potential

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - FEBRUARY 25, 1996

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: DEUTERONOMY 1:1-8
SERMON: "DEAD OR ALIVE?"
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 3/4/79
*HYMN
BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

BILL WALKER
UNSPUNEN - CAROL/JOAN
LAIRD -
KEITH JOAN

Lik many Xpians?

Mayb truly Born Agin,& hav accpt Xp,but that wher stop

continuu play cool,coast,drift thru lif do li or nothin 4 the Lord

Are You One of thez?

If mus anser yes,then need 2kno lik peop Is U n this sid Jord wen cud B othr sid enjoy Joys G giv & prom 2 His peop

U & I need 2 hear G's Word agin, (Read vs 8)

Let us claim complet inheritnc which is in Xp that

we may B "DEAD" 2sin & the world,

& B "ALIVE" thru Xp & the fulness of JOY^{THAT} Blonging

2 Him brings into our livs.

ECCLESIASTES 8:12

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

OFTN IN OUR AFLICTIN WE IMAGIN G'S PLAN IS ENDING IN DIASTER
BUT G IS ONLY MOVING US ON TO FUTUR CIRCUMS THAT WIL BRING NEW
BENEFITS NOW

REWARDS IN ETRNTY
IT IS TH/MUCH DISLIKD SNOW/ICE THAT REPLENISHES TH/WATER TABLE,
SO WE CAN HAV CONTINUED WATER SUPPLYS ALL YR
IT IS TH/RUF WINDS THAT FASTN TH/ROOTS OF TH/STATLY OAKS/MAPLES
THAT PROVID US W/SHADE & OXYGEN
G HAS A PLAN & A PURPOS 4EA & EVRY THING U & I MAY THINK OF AS
DISASTRS

SECOND LESSN PEO OF ISRAEL HAD 2LERN WAS:
NOT ONLY WAT 2DO

BUT 2DO IT
BUT AS MOS OF US HAV FND, SUMTIMES NMZ TAKS NOT ONLY TH/DESIR,
BUT TO BE PREPARD FOR IT

(ILUS NEW XPIAN WITNES 2FARMR BOUT SERIES OF SERMNS)

THIS FELLO MAY NOT HAV HAD ALL TH/EQUIP NECESARY 2DO TH/JOB
BUT HE WAS OUT AMONG THEM DOING SUMTHIN

WE CANNOT USE TH/LAME EXCUS WE DON'T HAV TH/EQUIPMEN, BCUZ WE DO
IF WE TRULY WANT 2GRO/LERN, & B WAT G WANTS US 2B WE CAN
WE HAV TH/BIBL & TH/READING/STUDY OF IT WIL GIV US G'S MESAG
IF WE SAY WE DONT HAV TIME, WE NEED TO ALTR OUR CO CALLD BUSY
SCHEDUL & MAK TIME

(ILUS BASKETBALL GAME & 2 TO 0 WIN)

MAY BIN WIN FOR THAT LUCKY team

BUT THEY ALSO LOST

LOST THEIR OPORTUNITY & JOY OF USE FUL PCTNTIL

IS IT THIS LIK SO MANY WHOCCALL SELVS XPIANS?

I AGIN, BUT THAT ALL

PLAY IT COOL & DRIFT DO LITTL OR NUTHIN FOR TH/LORD

MUS ASK "AM I ONE OF THEZ?"

IF YESTHEN NEED KNO LIK PEO OF ISR U R STAND THIS SIDE JORDN

WEN CUDB OTHR SIDE ENJOY TH/JOY G HAS PROM 2HIS PEO

U & I NEED HEAR AGIN G'S WORD:

"BEHOLD, I HAVE SET TH/LAND B4 U: GO IN & POSES TH/LAND

LET US CLAIM TH/COMPLET INHERITANC WH/IS IN XP THAT WE MAYB

DED 2SIN & TH/WORLD

AND ALIVE THRU XP & TH/FULNES OF JOY WH/BLONGING 2HIM BRINGS
INTO OUR LIVS

SCRIP: DEUT 1:1-8; SERM: "DEAD OR ALIVE?"

(ILUS PSYCHIATRIST & COUCH 4INSECUR PEO W/SAFTY BELT)

PEO ISR VERY INSECUR THIS PT SCRIP & SHAL C AS LK THIS PORTIN DEUT

DEUT - MEANS "THE SECOND LAW"

CONTAIN MOSLY LAS DIDCORS MOSES 2PEO B4CROS JORDN

QUOT THIS BUK MOR THAN ANY OTHR OT BUKS

THUS STANDOUT= G'S LUV & MAN'S REQUIRD OBEDIENC

PEO NOW REACH TH/PROM LAND - THIS SIDE JORDN & LK FUTUR HOMELAND

VS 1=VALY RUN FR/SEA GALILEE 2GULF AQABAH

VS 2=STARTL NEWS NOT 2MANY PEO AWARE OF

TUK 40 YRS 2ACOMPLISH WAT CUD BIN DUN IN 11 DAYS

IMAGIN! WANDR 4OYRS & CUD REACH DESTINATIN LESS 2WKS

CUASE=UNBLIEF/UNFAITHFULNES G WANT/EXPEC FR/THEM

THIS HELP US UNDRST WHY THEY INSECUR PEO

VSS 3-5=MOSES SPK 2PEO CONCERN WAT NEED DO

VS 6=ORDRS DIREC COMANDS FR/GOD

VSS 7-8= 2GO 4TH & TAK LAND AS PROM ABE-IS-JACOB-THER FATNRS

THUS CAN C MIXDUP BUNCH PEO GAZ WAT 2B THER HOMELAND REST LIVS

WAT WIL THEY DO? WE KNO ANSR - BUT THIS MENT A CHOICE

DO THEY ARGU W/G & NO CROS JORDN? OR ARGU BOUT FEAR UNKNO TERTORY

BAS ON PAS EXPER THIS WAT WUDB EXPEC OF THEM

ALSO BAS PAS EXPER CAN C MADE CHOICS WH/LEF THEM DED 2 G'S PROM

OF JOYS FOR THEM

& CHOIC LEF THEM ALIV 2TH/PUNISHMEN WH/WILFUL DISOBEY ENTAILD

AS LK THIS ANCIENT EVENT WAT R IMPLICATINS 4US IN OUR LIVS???

FIRST THING=GO IN & POSESS TH/LAND - VS 8A

THIS ORDR GIVN MT SINAI

THIS HALF TH/BATTL 2KNO WAT 2DO

(ILUS FAMER & MULE W/LONG EARS)

MITE NOT BIN SMARTER MAN, BUT HAD IDEA WAT 2DO & ATEMP SOLV PROB

HOW OFT WE LIK ISRTES & CONTINU QUES POSITIN IN LIF RATHER

1. A SEEK WAYS CAN MOV IN DIRECTINS G WANTS US 2MOV???

(ILUS OF PAINTING OF CATTL BOAT ENTITL=CHANGING PASTURES)

EVEN CYNICAL KING SOL WHO WROT ECCLESIASTES SED IN MIDST HIS

CYNISM - ECCLESIASTES 8:12 - READ

"Dead Or Alive?"

Scripture: Deuteronomy 1:1-8

Text: Deuteronomy 1:8

Perhaps you may have heard of the psychiatrist who ~~deals~~ specializes in treating insecure people. He has a special couch with a safety belt.

The people of Israel were very insecure at this point in Scripture as we shall see very shortly in looking at this portion of Deuteronomy.

The people had now reached the promised land. They were on this side of the River Jordan and could look across to where their future homeland was to be. The book of Deuteronomy means "The Second Law." It contains mostly the last discourses of Moses to the people before they crossed the River Jordan and this book was quoted by Jesus more than any of the Old Testament books. The things which stand out in the book are God's love, and man's required obedience.

As Moses begins this speech we read, (read verse 1), in the wilderness, in the plain." Some translations use, "In the wilderness, in the ~~Aquabah~~ Arabah."

This word Arabah is ~~usually~~ a Hebrew word which has the meaning of ~~the~~ "a plain," and refers to a valley which runs from the Sea of Galilee to the Gulf of Aqabah."

But in the second verse we read the most startling news which many people are not even aware of and that is, (Read verse 2). Can you understand what this says? This means that what took 40 years to accomplish, could have been done in 11 days. Imagine, wandering for 40 years when they could have reached their destination in not quite 2 weeks. But this was a result of their unbelief, and unfaithfulness to what God wanted and expected from them. This should help us to understand why at this point they were a very insecure people.

And so Moses begins to speak to these people concerning what they need to do, (verse 3-5). The orders he gives them are direct commands from God, (verse 6), and they are to go forth and take the land as it was promised to ~~them~~ their fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, (verses 7-8).

Thus we can see a very mixed up bunch of people standing gazing at what is to be their homeland for the rest of their lives, and what will they do? We of course know the answer and what they did, but for them it meant a choice. Do they once again defy God and tell Him its too much to expect them to cross that

River? Or do they argue that they do not know who or what lurks in that unknown territory and they are afraid? Based on past experiences this is what would be expected of them.

Also based on their past experiences we can see that they made the choices which left them "Dead" to God's promised joys for them, and "Alive" to the punishment which their wilful disobedience entailed. As we look at this ancient event, just what are the implications for us in our own lives?

The first thing we must obviously see is that at Mt. Sinai God ~~gave~~ prepared the people for a clear cut task, "To go ~~in~~ in and possess the land." This should have been for them at least half the battle, for in any area of life, to know what to do is exactly that.

(Illustration of farmer and mule with long ears)

This fellow may not have been the smartest man in the world, but he had a good idea of what he had to do and he was at least attempting something to solve his problem. But how often are we like the Israelites and we continue to question our position in life, rather than seeking ways in which we can move in the directions that God wants us to move. ~~xxxxxxx~~

(Illustration of painting of cattle boat in storm entitled, "Changing Pastures")

Even the cynical King Solomon who is identified as "The Preacher" who wrote Ecclesiastes said in the midst of his cynicism, (Read Ecclesiastes 8:12).

Out of all affliction come valuable lessons for us to learn of God and to grow that much closer to Him. It is the much disliked snow and ice that replenishes the water table so we can have continued water supplies all year. It is the rough winds that fasten the roots of the old and stately oaks and maples. God has a plan and a purpose for each and every thing you and I may think of as complete disasters.

But the second lesson the people of Israel had to learn was to not only know what to do, but to do it. But as most of us have found out, sometimes that ~~does~~ takes not only the desire, but to be prepared for it.

(Illustration of New Christian and witnessing to farmer about series of services to be held in the next week or so).

This fellow may not have had all of the equipment necessary to do the job, but at least he was out among them. You and I cannot say we don't have the equipment and use that as a lame excuse for doing nothing. We have God's Word and if we have our nose in it at all we should be discovering that God wants us to be living for Him. If we say we don't have time, then we need to re-evaluate our lives and see why our lives are top heavy in doing for ourselves, but not doing anything directed toward learning and knowing of God's will for our lives. (Illustration of basketball team and 2 to 0 win).

That may have been a win for that lucky team,, but they also lost. They robbed themselves of the ~~xxxxxx~~ joy of using their full potential. But isn't this like many who call themselves Christians? They may have truly been "Born Again," and have accepted Christ, but that is where it all stops. They continue to play it cool and just coast and drift through life doing little or nothing for the Lord. Are you one of these? If you must answer yes, then you need to know that like the people of Israel you are standing on this side of the Jordan when you could be over on the other side enjoying the Joy which God has promised to His people. You and I need to hear God's Word again, (read verse ~~xxx~~ 8a). Let us claim the complete inheritance which is in Christ that we may be "Dead" to sin and the world, and "Alive" through Christ and the fullness of Joy ^{WHICH} belonging to Him brings into our lives.

"Shadow To Reality: The Offering"
Scripture: Exodus 27:1-8

Wen vicur Tab & 1Gate, & this Jx Xp can C sum signif
Pi ar agin cort 150x75 & 30 foot Gate, Rectangle
Entr Gate & cum fac < fac with Altr, had fac B4 anyth
Imposib 2cum without encounter, let us look at this:
v. 1-Shittin wood-ACAYSHA tree=our Locust family
tuf tree gru aduers condits & sho humanty Js,
"LIK ROOT OUT OF DRY GROUND=like Acaccia tree
vs 1b=5cub x 5 cubs=7½ ft sq=4sq & 3cub=4½ ft high
vs 2=Horns 4=bind sacrif B4 slain & symbol powr OT
Giv direcs NEWS & this Js Gud Nus
I Bliev sho Js & sed=giv lif voluntarily, no 1 tak
He no need bound 2cros, but I bliev horns 4nails
As spotles lamb on Altr=so Js Spotles Lam G
bound cruel cros sacrific 4mankind
Vss 3-5=utnesils
Vss 6-7=2stavs not 1=2 poles & thez Deth/Resurrection
Can't hav 1 without othr/He die, but also rose
If dy jus lik us, no purp 2G's plan, had < dy & rise
Vs 8=Wood & signif fir burn nite/day no consum wood
in constan contac & no deterior or destroy & this
lik ministry Js in const contac with worl & no
Sin in Him
FIRST: Altr mean Lift Up & sacrif lift up B4 G
Can't C Js? & I IF I B LIFTD UP WIL DRAW ALL MEN
Wat do U C wen lk our Altar? CROSS
& Wher is it? Abuv, it lift our Eye & remind of
Js Xp & this dun 4ea us personl & individ no 4get
SECOND: Altr stud rt inside Gate & cud not B avoid
or sidstep
2do so ment deth, Bcuz mus brin offr 2G 4clens
L an 4us is same, canno sidstep G, He deman we under-
stand signif wat He do 4us
Altr plac sub 4 sin, & isites brot lam offr plac then
Js Bcam lam willingly
But requir Blud, this ment deth animl & ment Deth Js
Can't escap this altho Ch movments want < in SS &
hymnals etc. Bcuz scare peop
But if U canno acct Js had 2shed Blud 4us, then U
cannot understand wat G did on our Bhalf thru Luv
(Illus old soldier & substitute 4 yng soldier)
This exact wat Js did 4us, He not only sub on Altr
but priest on our Bhalf
This signif of Altr & may G enrich livs by unfold
thez thing 2our harts & livs

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Lenten Service March 7, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "Eventide" Willan
*Processional Hymn No. 14 "Praise ye the Father"
*Ascription (JAY AMEN)
*Call to Worship (Choir)
Evening Prayer
Announcements
Offering
Offertory "He Leadeth Me" arr. Young
Duet: "Lord I Adore Thee Arr. R. J. Hughes
Sung by Dutch and Howdy Bolam
Scripture: Exodus 27: 1-8
Sermon: "Shadow To Reality: Offering"
*Hymn of Dedication No. 59 "All praise to Thee"
*Benediction
*Response
*Postlude: "Now the Day is Over" Morris
----- *Congregation Standing -----
Serving as Ushers tonight are: *Allen Botacchi,
Dan Bosko, Robert Knauer, and Charles Penar.
There will be council meeting right after the service
this evening.
Eacon and Mrs. William Thompson will be the Greeters
at the door this evening.
If you know of anyone interested in joining the Church
new members will be received on Palm Sunday.
See you in Church on Sunday.

BRING BIBLES; FOR TAN READ EX 25-31; 8
FINISH OF IT EX 35-40

MARCH 10, EP 6 GLORIA WALKER ANNIV.

"Shadow To Reality: Offering"

Scripture: Exodus 27:1-8

When we picture the court of the Tabernacle and see that there is only one gate at the Eastern end and recognize that this signifies there is only one way open to come before God, and that Jesus Christ is that Gate or that way, we begin to see some of the significance, or importance of each article of that Tabernacle. So once again we must picture a rectangle 150 feet long and 75 feet wide, with a gate 30 feet wide at one end. Upon entering that gate the first article of furniture ~~standing directly in the middle of the court~~ in the court was the Altar. It was placed directly in the middle of the court at the front so that the worshiper had to come to it before he did anything else. It was impossible to come into the court without encountering the Altar. In our Scripture God gave directions to build the Altar and it was to be made of Shittim wood, or wood from the Acacia, (ACAY-SHA) tree. Our Locust trees are members of that family. It was a tough tree which grew under rather adverse desert conditions. As we look at the wood used it helps to remind us of the humanity of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah tells us that He was, "As a root out of a dry ground." Much like the Acacia wood.

Then we see the measurements of the Altar. It was to be, "5 cubits long, and 5 cubits broad," this meant it was to be $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet square, which is ~~what~~ the meaning of it being, "Foursquare." It was to be 3 cubits high which made it $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

Then was to be made horns for it, vs 2, one for each corner and these were to be covered with brass. The purpose of the horns was to bind the sacrifice to the altar before it was slain. The significance of the horns is that first, horns in Scripture are a symbol of power. Secondly there are 4 of them and we can think of them as giving us the 4 directions of the world. Someone has suggested that there is North, East, West, and South and if you take the first letter of each of these words you have the word NEWS. News for us is the Good News which is Jesus Christ. But there is another meaning I would like to suggest that these four horns has and that has to do with Jesus Christ on the cross.

Jesus has told us through one of the Gospel writers that He voluntarily laid down His life for us. He said that no one took it from Him, that He did it willingly. This means that He did not have to be bound to that cross. They could have used any means possible to keep Him on that cross, it wouldn't have mattered because He still would have done it willingly for us. I believe the real significance of the horns was that they stand for the 4 nails which were cruelly driven into the hands and feet of Jesus. They show us that just as a spotless lamb was bound to the Altar in the Court of the Tabernacle, so was Jesus the Spotless Lamb of God, bound to a cruel cross as a sacrifice for mankind.

Then we read that there were to be utensils made for the care and keeping of this Altar. But the next thing of significance that I would like you to look at is found in verses 6 ~~and 7~~ and 7, (read). Notice that there were to be 2 staves and not one. God could have designed it to be carried with one stave instead of two. But ~~the significance of two staves is that it~~ the significance of two staves is that it had to have both and could not be carried ~~with~~ unless there were two poles being used. These two poles again point to Jesus and the twofold message of His sacrifice. He first of all died, but He also rose. One without the other is of no value to anyone. We cannot speak of just His dying, for if He just died like any of us must, then the whole purpose of God's plan was done the drain. He had to rise from the grave and live again in order for sin and death to be conquered. The importance for us is that our salvation rests not upon His life, nor His good deeds, nor His ministry, or anything else. Our Salvation is dependent upon His dying for us, but coming back from death to impart eternal life to those who believe in ~~His~~ Him.

The last direction given in this passage of Scripture is that the Altar is to be made of wood overlaid with brass. This may not seem to have too much significance, but when you consider that there was a constant fire on that Altar day and night, and that wood did not deteriorate or burn through under the brass plates, you realize that God was trying to show something else to man-

kind. Perhaps we could say that the real meaning of this is that although the God was in constant contact with the elements which could deteriorate and ~~de-~~ destroy yet this did not take place. Likewise was the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. He was on constant contact with all of the things of this world such as you and I face and yet He was able to withstand the sin and temptation all around Him.

Now these are only a portion of the things we could relate about this Altar. But there are certain things we should remember above all else. First, we should know that the word "Altar" means to, "Lift up." It was here that the sacrifice was "Lifted up" before God. Can't we see in this the sacrifice of Jesus Christ? He said, "And I if I be lifted up will draw all men to myself." This has always been interpreted as meaning that it is only to the sight of the cross lifted above us can we see and realize the suffering which took place on our behalf. What do you see as you look at what we call our Altar? The Cross, right? And where is that cross in conjunction to the Altar? It is lifted up above it, isn't it? And that cross should always remind us that our Saviour was lifted up on a cruel instrument such as that for each of us individually and personally. If we can't remember anything else about what our faith should be, we should remember that this was done for me.

But the second most important thing we should remember about the Altar in the Tabernacle is that it stood right in the front of the Court inside the entrance. There was no possible way that it could be avoided. To step around it and to try to avoid it meant death because each worshiper had to first take care of their offering before the Lord to receive His cleansing and blessing. The lesson for us is that we cannot sidestep our Altar either. God demands that we understand and recognize the significance of what He has done for us. That Altar was the place of the substitute for sin. The Israelites brought their lambs to be offered in place of them. Jesus became our lamb willingly. But you see this required blood. In order to require blood it meant the death of that animal, and it meant the death of Jesus Christ. We can't escape this

no matter how we may want to blot it out. We have had within the church movements to remove mention of blood sacrifice from our hymns, from our Sunday School lessons and so forth. This is done ~~to~~ supposedly to keep from frightening people. But if you cannot accept the fact that a person in a human body such as you and I possess had to suffer and bleed on our behalf, then you cannot come to grips with the total significance of God's love for you.

(Illustration of old officer offering to give himself for the younger man and the pardon received by the younger man)

This is exactly what Jesus did for us. He was not only the substitute on the altar but He was the priest on our behalf as well. This is the significance of the Altar in the Tabernacle and may God enrich our lives by unfolding these things to our hearts and lives.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Second Sunday in Lent March 11, 1979

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Tim Fry and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Hanover" arr. by Gordon Young
*Processional Hymn No. 76 "God is Love: His mercy brightens"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Mighty God, by your power is Christ raised from death to rule this world with love. We confess that we have not believed in Him, but fall into doubt and fear. Gladness has no home in our hearts, and gratitude is slight. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ who was dead but lives, and will put down every power that hurts or destroys, when your promised kingdom comes. Amen."
*Kyrle (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 206 "Draw Thou my soul"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "He Leadeth Me" Young
Anthem: "Treasures in Heaven" Clokey
Sung by Cyndie Sybert and the Chancel Choir
Scripture: Deuteronomy 33: 26-29
Sermon: "God's Quad: 1 - Breadth"
ayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 85 "There's a wideness in God's mercy"

*Benediction

*Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

*Postlude "The Lord Bless You and Keep

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Vargo and Family to the "Glory of God" Serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder, John Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Harbison will greet the Congregation and Visitors at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Diane Hollefreund and Betty Carney.

Tonight 7:00 - Teacher's Training

Tonight 6-7 - Jr. Hi Youth Fellowship

Tonight 7-9 - Youth Fellowship

Wed. - 7:30 - Lenten Service

Wed. - 6:30 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal: Youth 6-7

Fri. - 6:00 - Spaghetti Dinner (ARC Class) See article in Newsletter. Call Evie Dellen (287-7928)

Tuesday Evenings - 7:00 - Bible Study until 9:00.

Hospitalized: Lewis Kradel and Wilmer Pfabe, Steve Cooper-V.A.

When you use your One Great Hour of Sharing anytime this month - please remember to put your name on the envelope so you can be given credit for it.
Last Sunday we had 210 in Attendance.

Mr. Ed Weichey would like to thank the Congregation for the Get-Well Cards, Prayers while he was a patient in the Cleveland Clinic.

Additional Daily Devotions are on the way.

Rob Sybert and Bruce McBride will be visiting the hospital this week.

Basketball - Sat. - 3:00 - C. M. A. vs. St. Paul's, (Senior Division)

New Members will be received on Palm Sunday. Should you know of anyone interested in joining the Church drop a slip in the offering plate or let the Pastor know or Bea Tait.

I would like to start a Children's Choir from ages 4-8. These children sang so well at Family Christmas Program that I feel they could further develop their talent of singing. Call me at 287-3549 - Cyndie Sybert

"God's Quad: 1 - Breadth"
 Scrip: Deut 33:26-29; Text: Deut: 33:27a
 (Ill) 3 Will Snow & 1st time C Pacif ocean)
 Smil innocen sum1 lik this,lik sm chil,but cud U or I
 evr describ ocean?
 I went Seat1 2 Yokohoma,Jap saw ocean & no can tell
 Bu evn Apos P giant intelec was,gros inadeq 2 say
 (Read Eph 3:17-19)here dimens P giv (read vs 18)
 Dif topic Sun & Wed & 4 Suns giv Dimens G's luv
 G's Quad=4 dimens,1k at cros abuv altr
 Crosbeam=Breadth,2day;entir uprite=Length,next wk;
 botom uprite Blow crosbeam=depth;Upr sect=Height
 Deut 33=Mos giv finl bles 12 trib,Bcuz no go ovr Jord
 Clos word chap tel Breadth G's luv & wat G do future
 Vs 26=Jeshurun=Supremly happy & symbolic nam 4 Israel
 vs 26b=pictur G rid thru sky on chariot=powr,majesty
 vs27a=extent G luv go,His suport Everlast,eternal
 vs 27b & 28=KJV vs othr transl shld B futur tens &
 othrs hav past & present tens & this sho tranlatrs
 chang tenses wrong places
 Remain vss tel Is 2b victorious & win in nu homeland
 But thez proms Blong 2U & me 2day Bcuz we recip of
 G's luv & blessings & this prom of BREADTH G's luv
 but man cannot claim prom unles fled 2arms 4sheltr
 & sot refug thru Xp
 (Illus Jn Andre & poem whil await deth Rev War)
 It thru riteenes Js Xp find refug G's everlast arms
 But if want desrbie Breadth G luv mus no 4get imp vs
 Jn 3:16=Whosoever mean any1 cum wilB saved
 2 anclud al mank,is 2encompas worl & this G want 4us
 (Illus washing essay by girl)
 Th tru G,no miss anything,includ all men,race etc
 a 2b sheltr everlast arms & U & I find hard unders
 Nothr elemnt we find hard underst also
 (Illus underserv waitres get big tip)
 This wat G dun 4 U & me,no deserv His luv,insted we
 merit His condemnation this worl & worl 2cum
 Yet,out infin mercy pardn,clens all who acpt gift
 Js Xp which He extend 2all worl
 May U B abl 2underst the Breadth G's luv which shed
 abroad 4 U & me on Calvary's cross
 May U kno it mor fuly,& feel it mor deeply this season
 May that knowledge & feeling bring in2 harts & livs
 JOY that Eternal G is our refuge,& underneath R the
 everlasting Arms.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - MARCH 4, 1996

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

GOOD FRIDAY - 7:30
 EASTER SUNRISE 7:00 - CHILDREN (CLOSED)
 BREAKFAST - COMM TO MEET & PLAN
 CHURCH - 9:30 (TWO - CHILDREN).

APR. 21 - ST FRIENDSHIP DINNER

(FOOD BECAUSE IN MEETING)

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN
 SCRIPTURE: DEUTERONOMY 33:26-29
 SERMON: "GOD'S QUAD: 1 - BREADTH"
 ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 3/11/79

*HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 *POSTLUDE

EDNA
 JACK - HEART
 DIW - PACE CARRER
 LARA/TWILA
 VIKTORIA JEAN
 PEG

SCRIP: DEUT 33:26-29; SERM: "GOD'S QUAD: 1 - BREADTH"

(ILUS WILL SNOW, INDIAN & FIRST TIME SEEING PACIFIC OCEAN)

EXAMPLE: SELF & TRIP ACROSS PACIFIC - VASTNESS & REV OF GOD THRU IT

APOSTLE PAUL INTELECTUL GIANT CUDNT ADEQ DESCRIBE GOD'S LOVE

LL USE AS TEXT NEXT FOUR SUNDAYS EPHESIANS 3:17-19 *WIDNES*

SCRIP THIS MORN PT=BREADTH G'S LUV, OR IF U WIL "TH/PTENES G LUV
HYMNWRITR OLD HYMN: THER'S A WIDNES IN G'S MERCY, LIK TH/WIDNES
OF TH/SEA - TRY DEFIN BREADTH/WIDNES G'S LUV

SCRIP -MOSES GIV FINAL BLES TO 12TRIBES AS PREP GO OVR JORDN

HE NO GO BCUZ DISOBEYED 2 GOD MUS STAY THIS SIDE & DY HERE

VS 26-JESHURUN MEANS-EXTREMELY HAPPY & SYMBOL NAM 4 ISRAEL

PICTUR OF G RIDE THRU HVNS CHARIOT COMON ILUS SHO POWR/MAJESTY

VS 27-PT OUT EXTENT HIS LUV GOES

EVRLASTING/ETERNAL

this is th/PROM OF THE BREADTH G'S LUV 2U & ME

BUT WE CANT CLAIM THAT PROM UNLES WE HAV FLED 2THOZ ARMS FOR
SHELTR & SOT REFUG THRU XP

(ILUS BLAWK AUTHOR JAMES BALDWIN & MEETING W/WORLD TOP CHURCHMEN

TH/CROSS EA US MUS CARY IS CROSS G'S LUV 4ALL PEO

THRU RITUSNES JS XP CAN FIND REFUG WE NEED IN SHELTR/EVRLASTING

ARMS OF GOD
IF WANT DESRBI "BREDTH G'S LUV CANT 4GET IMPORT VS SCRIP

IT ~~EXEMPLE~~DESCRIBS -BREDTH/LNGTH/DEPTH/HGT G'S LUV AS LK WKS AHE

JN 3:16-4G SO LUV TH/WORL THAT HE GAV HIS ONLY BGTN SON, THAT

WHOSOEVR BLIEVTH IN HIM SHUD NOT PERISH BUT HAV EVRLAST LIFE

WHOSOEVR MEANS ANYONE, INCLUD ALL MANK/ALL WORLD-THIS WAT G WANT

(ILUS WOMAN WAHING, LINE BREAK, SO OVER & DOG WALK ALL OVER)

THIS TRU OF GOD - HE NO MESS NOUTHIN

INCLUD ALL PEO, REACES 2B SHELTR UNDR EVRLASTING ARMS

LIK OCEAN, THIS LUV 2VAST /DIFFICULT UNDRSTAN -JUS BASK IN-ENJOY

NL AR ELEMENT THIS LUV

(ILUS UNDESERV WAITNES & GENERUS TIP IN SPITE OF HERSELF)

ISNT THIS WAT G DID 4U & ME?

DONT DESERV G'S LUV-MERIT CONDEM IN THIS & WORLD 2CUM

YET INFIN MERCY PARDON/CLENS ALL ACPT GIFT JS XP

ONLY THRU XP CAN WE C "BREDTH" G'S LUV, SHED ON CALVRY CROSS

MAY THAT LUV GIV US TH/JOY THAT TH/ETERNL G IS OUR REFUG &

UNDRNEATH R TH/EVRLASTING ARMS

ephesians 3:17-19

HERE PAUL GIV DIMENSINS OF GOD'S LOVE

FOUR OF THEM & IF GIV TITLE I WUD CALL IT = "GOD'S QUAD"

FOUR DIMENSINS OF G'S LUV

I SPE THIS AS EXPRESSED IN TH/CROSS

I LK AT CROSS UP FRONT HERE U CAN VIZULIZ THEZ 4DIMENSINS
OF GOD'S LOVE

PICUTR IF U WILL:

HORIZ PIEC OR CROSS BEAM AS REF "BREADTH" GO'D LOVE -2DAY

NEXT WK=ENTIR VERT UPRIGHT WH/WILB ="LENGTH" GOD'S LOVE

FOLLOW WK=LOWER HALF VERT UPRIGHTE ="DEPTH" GOD'S LOVE

4TH WK=UPPR SECTIN VERT ABUV CROSBELAM="HEIGHT GOD'S LOVE

EA/THZTHINGS SHO DIMENSIN G'S LUV 2HANK & DEMO VASTNES LUV 4U

VS 27B & VS 28=INTERSTING IF READ NOTHR VERSIN JERU BIB/GUDNEWS

RSV/AM STAN/NU ENG BIBL=ALL HAV PAST TENS & THIS WRONG

SHUD READ="SHAL SAY - SHAL DWEL - SHAL DROP & K JAMES RITE

SS TEL PEO LK 4WARD NOT BAKWARD, THIS IS B4 THEM & NOT HAP YET

BUT SHOWS HOW BIB TRANS SUMTMS GET TENSES WRONG & KJV STIL *4/7/77*

VSS 28-29=ISR 2B VICTORIOUS & WIN OVR ENMYS IN NU HOMELANDFAITHFU

ALTHO THEZ WORDS ADREM PEO ISR APLY 2US 2DAY, HERE & NOW

IT IS RITE 2SAY 2ANY OF U - VS 27

"God's Quad: 1 - Breadth"

Scripture: Deuteronomy 33:26-29

Text: Deuteronomy 33:27a

(Illustration of Will Snow, Indian and first time seeing the Pacific Ocean). We smile at the innocence of someone like this. Like a small child, but can you or I ever begin to describe something as vast and large as ~~this~~ the ocean? I know something of how this Indian felt for it took 15 days to travel from Seattle Washington to Yokohama, Japan by troopship and each day I marveled at all of that water. Each day I was reminded of the creation by God of this ~~big~~ huge body of water and to begin to tell of the revelation of God through it is nigh to impossible.

But this is what the Apostle Paul giant of an intellectual which he was, was able to say, and even this is grossly inadequate to describe God's love.

(Read Ephesians 3:17-19). Here are the dimensions which Paul gives, (read verse 18). You may have noted that this year we are dealing with two different topics on Sunday and Wednesday. For the next four Sundays I would like to share with you these dimensions of God's love. I have entitled this series, "God's Quad," which should convey that there are four articles to be considered. For our thinking I would direct us to the Cross above the altar. If you look at the Cross you can visualize these four dimensions of God's love. ~~Picture~~ Picture if you will the horizontal piece, or the crossbeam as representing the "Breadth" which we will be speaking of today. For next week we will be speaking of the entire vertical upright which is the "Length." And then the next week the lower half of the upright from the crossbeam downward as the "Depth," and the last message on the upper section of the upright above the cross beam as the "Height." Each of these things is a dimension of God to mankind and demonstrates the vastness of His love for us.

Our Scripture for this morning points to the "Breadth" of God's love or if you prefer to use another word, "The Wideness" of God's love. In this 33rd chapter of Deuteronomy, Moses is giving a final blessing to the 12 tribes of Israel. He is not going to go over the Jordan with them because God will not permit him

to do so. Thus he is giving them his best wishes on their journey and in the closing words of this chapter he is telling them of the "breadth" of God's love for them and what God will be doing for them in the future.

In the 26th verse Moses says, "There is none like the God of Jeshurun," and the means, "Supremely happy," and is a symbolical name for Israel. It is de-
name Jeshurun, ~~is merely another name for Israel.~~ So it would read, "There is
rived from the root, "to be blessed."
none like the God of ~~Jeshurun~~ Israel, who rideth upon the heavens in thy help, and in His excellency on the sky."

The picture of God riding through the heavens on a chariot was a common illustration to show His power and majesty. Verse 27 points out the extent to which God's love goes. His support is everlasting, eternal. The second part of this verse as well as the 28th verse is interesting if you are reading it in another version other than the King James. Now there are people who like to bug me about reading the King James, but I would like to point out these two verses as a good example of what I try to say about translations. In verse 27, the last part should be future tense, "He shall thrust out." In the Good News Bible, The RSV, American Standard, and the New English Bible it is past tense as though all of this was behind them. In the Living Bible it is present tense which is a little better, but not quite what it should be. In verse 28 we find the same thing. The KJV reads, "Shall dwell," which is future tense, not yet fulfilled, while the RSV, the American Standard, The Good News Bible, The Jerusalem Bible, the New English Bible, and the Living Bible all have present or past tense. At this point in time Moses is telling the people of looking ahead and not backward, nor to Just the present moment. But Biblical translators ~~sometimes~~ sometimes get a little sloppy in their translating and change the tenses in the wrong places. The gist of the remainder of the verses in this chapter have to do with Israel being victorious and winning out over their enemies in their new homeland. Now to understand better what I am trying to say we must bear in mind that although these words were addressed to the people of Israel they apply to us today, here and now. Those who come to the Lord are the recipients of God's love and blessings. Therefore it is just as right to say to any one of you, "The Eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

This is the promise of the "Breadth" of God's love to you and me.

But man cannot claim that promise unless he has fled to those arms for shelter and sought refuge through Christ.

Major John Andre was executed during the revolutionary war and after his death a poem was found in his shirt pocket, written while awaiting his death. This is what it said: (Illustration Hohn Andre's poem)

It is through the righteousness of Jesus Christ that we can find the refuge we need in God's sheltering Everlasting Arms.

But if we want to describe the "Breadth" of God's love we cannot forget one very important verse of Scripture. In fact we can use this verse to describe the "Breadth, Length, Height, and Depth" of God's love as we look at all of these dimensions in future weeks. The verse is the familiar John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life."

If we take the word "Whosoever" out of that verse and look at it, we can see that this means anyone who comes to Him will be saved. To include all mankind is to encompass the entire world, but this is what God wants for His creation. (Illustration of woman washing, line breaks, lays on grass and dog walks on) This is true of God. He didn't miss nothing. He included all men, all races, all people to be sheltered under His Everlasting Arms. That is the extent of a love which you and I must find very difficult to speak of because we can't understand it and all we can actually do, much like the ocean, is to bask in it and love God that much more for it.

But there is still another element in this love which defies all human comprehension. At least anyone striving to think it through has quite a bit of difficulty in thinking about it, much less telling of it.

(Illustration of undeserving waitress getting generous tip in spite of herself)

Isn't this what God has done for you and me? We don't deserve God's love, We merit His condemnation in this and in the world to come. Yet, ^{of} out [^] His infinite mercy He pardons and cleanses all who accept the gift of Jesus Christ which He has extended to all the world. May you be able to understand a part of the

"breadth" of God's love, which was shed abroad for you and me ~~at~~ on Calvary's cross. May you know that more fully, and feel it more deeply this season. And may that knowledge and feeling bring into our hearts and lives the Joy that the "Eternal God is our refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

"Shadow To Reality: Water"
 Scrip: Ex. 30:17-21; Text: Ex. 30:19-20

znit we lk nothr pc furntur insid cort Tab &=LAVER
 vs 1a=Mos tol 2 mak LAVER of brass & foot
 Brass in Bib stand 4 G's judgment
 we no kno dimens lavr, sum think 5ft hi, basin top
 & basin bottom, 2 wash hands & feet & this vs 18a
 vs 18b=mean any1 cum in Cort, 1st gate, 2nd Altr, Lavr
 Ex 28:8=Brass mirrors, cum from Egypt, polish brass
 & Lavr polish 2 pt out priest defilment & read
 this vs 19-21, (READ).

Had 2B clean minstr Altr or in Tab, & mus wash contin
 Order 2B rt relationship G had 2B clean
 1st analogy Js in Lavr=Unspot from worl, clean, no sin
 & no had wash as we do, He watr Himself, & clean also
 Vs 18end=symbolic Jn 15:3=thru Word G clens thru
 application of this Word
 1step cum acppt Js & 2nd apply Word 2lvs 4clensin
 Need daily wash by Word, study, read, medit & then C
 defilment, & then confess & B clens of it
 Jn 13:4-10=Js wash discipl feet & vs 9=Petr want mor
 vs 10=Js anser signif-tim salv persn Bcum spirituall
 clean & nevr need sav agin
 But contac with worl duz need 2confes daily sin in
 in ordr 2 avoid defilement
 floor Tab was desert, earth=walk ground feet dirty
 Priest handl sacrif hand dirty & so wash hand, feet
 we touch things worl, & our walk we touch dirt &
 so we mus wash hands, feet G's Lavr which Js Xp
 Wen lk agin arrang furn Tab we C pt 2 G plan 4mankin
 1st Gate=Js Xp & this entranc 2 G presenc
 2nd Altar=substitut offr 4 sinner, shed blud 4forgiv
 3rd Laver=provid w, tr 4daily clens thing defil persn
 Altar provid Justification & Laver Sanctification
 which ongo process gro in faith day by day
 IS THIS TRUE OF YOU? REALLY?
 But I Bliev 1furthr element Js reveal nothr way
 Jn 3:5=Water & Spirit=convers, regen, born agin etc
 & 2nd Baptism
 But if carry 1 step furthr lk crucifix Js=Jn 19:34
 Blud & Water & at deth tol this norma lseparate
 but 2distinct elements at this point
 I Bliev Blood signify shed 4 U & me 2covr our sins
 " " Water flow 2clens us of daily defilment &
 we need 2B remind it tak both in livs 2bring 2 God
 1st is Regener thru blood & 2nd Sanctif thru water
 G want us 2examin livs lt revel, How do U shape up in
 that lt? Can U rejoic that kno Savior & shed blud?
 R U awar U need clens ea day 2 remain undefil?
 Think wonderful G we hav, not only provid delivr sin
 also provid daily clens thru Lavr Js Xp=Shado 2 Reali

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Butler, Pennsylvania
 Lenten Service March 14, 1979
 The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
 Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "St. Gabriel" Willan
 *Processional Hymn No. 476 "Come, thou Fount of every blessing"
 *Ascription
 *Call to Worship "Alleluia" Gaither
 Evening Prayer
 Announcements
 Offering
 Offertory "O for a Closer Walk with God" arr. Morris
 Duet: Gordon Kennedy and Lloyd Link singing
 "I Believe in a Hill called Mt. Calvary" Wm. Gaither
 Scripture Exodus 30:17-21
 Sermon: "Shadow to Reality: Water"
 *Hymn of Dedication No. 178 "Blessing and honor"
 *Benediction
 *Response "Christ We do All Adore Thee" Dubois
 *Postlude: "O God, O Help" arr. Morris
 - - - - - *Congregation Standing - - - - -
 Serving as Ushers tonight are: *Wally Feder, John
 Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.
 Elder and Mrs. Harry Fry will greet the Congregation
 at the door this evening.
 Easter Lilies will be \$4.25. The paper was passed
 around on Sunday. If you would like to have a lily
 let Bea know or sign up in the office.

BRIEF
 COUNCIL MEETING AFTER CHURCH TONIGHT

CHURCH SUNDAY 11:00

WELCOME ALL EXP. VISITORS & NEW BOOKS.

"Shadow To Reality: Water"

Scripture: Exodus 30:17-21

Text: Exodus 30:19-20

We are going to look at another piece of furniture inside the Court of the Tabernacle and this was the "Laver." The first thing Moses was told to do by God was to make a "Laver of brass, vs 18a and there was to be a foot of brass made as well, vs 18b. Then the position of this laver was described in the remainder of this verse. This meant then that this brass wash basin was to be located between the Tabernacle and the Altar. This would mean that anyone coming through the Gate would first come to the Altar, and then to the Laver.

Contrary to the other articles we spoke of, God did not give any specific directions about the making of this laver. Moses was only told that it was to be of Brass and the use of Brass in the Bible often speaks of God's judgement. Now where did Moses get this brass? If we look at Exodus 38:8, we can see that this laver was made from Mirrors which the women brought with them from Egypt. These were not mirrors as we know them but were instead made of highly polished brass. These were melted down and formed into a basin, or tub which rested upon a foot also of brass and this made it possible for the priests to wash not only their hands but their feet conveniently as well. Now the laver itself was a polished brass vessel and the polishing of it made it act as a mirror so it could detect defilement. We read the reason for this in vss 19-21, (read). This meant that they absolutely had to wash in order to be clean before they entered the Tabernacle, or before they stepped to the Altar to minister on behalf of God. If they refused to wash, they did so under the penalty of death. This meant that for a priest to be in a right relationship before God he had to be clean.

Now here is what must be the first analogy to Jesus Christ in the Laver. He was without sin and remained unspotted from the world. This would mean that He was perfectly clean. It also meant that He did not have to go through the washing in order to be clean. This separates Jesus Christ from any other human in this one respect.

Now in the 18th verse we read that water is to be placed in the Laver. This is symbolic for in the 15th chapter of John the 3rd verse Jesus said, "Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you." It is through the Word of God that we are cleansed through the application of this Word. The first ~~step~~ step is to come to the Lord, in acceptance of Him, and the second is to apply His Word to our lives for cleansing. We need a daily washing by the Word. We need to read it, study it, and meditate on it so we can see our defilement, and then we can confess our sin and be cleansed of it.

In John 13:4-10, we read of Jesus washing His disciples feet. Peter is not satisfied with just having his feet washed and he asks to have his head and hands washed as well. Jesus answer to him is rather significant. At the time of salvation a person becomes spiritually clean and never needs to be saved again. But with his contact in the world he does need to confess daily sin in order to avoid defilement. The floor of the Tabernacle was actually the desert, the earth in other words. The priests walking on the earth got their feet dirty and they need cleansing. By handling the sacrifices on the altar their hands became dirty and they had to be washed as well. So we see that we touch the world daily ~~and we must wash our hands at Gods Laver which is~~ and our daily walk is not without sin as well. Therefore we must wash our hands and our feet at God's Laver which is Jesus Christ.

When we look once again at the arrangement of the furniture in God's Tabernacle we can see that it points once again to God's plan for mankind. First is provided the Gate, Jesus Christ which God has provided as the entrance into His presence. Next is the Altar upon which is offered the substitute for the sinner. This required the shedding of blood for this forgiveness. And then there is the Laver which provides the water for daily washing and cleansing of the things which ~~defile~~ create defilement in a persons daily life.

What we are saying here is that the Altar provides Justification, while the Laver provides Sanctification, which is an ongoing process of growing in the faith as we ~~walk~~ make our Christian walk each day.

But I believe there is one further element here and that has to do again with Jesus revealing Himself in another way. In the incident where Jesus is confronted by Nicodemus ~~in~~ as recorded in the 3rd chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus tells him, (read verse 5, water & Spirit). This means that there are two things which identify one with Christ. Normally we take them to be first, conversion, or regeneration, or the New Birth, or whatever you prefer to call it. And second, we think of this Water as being Baptism. I would like to carry this one step further and go to the crucifixion of Jesus. At the very last when He had given up His Spirit, the soldiers came to break the legs of them so they would die and they could be taken down from their crosses. But when they came to Jesus He was already dead, so instead the soldier took his spear and thrust it into Jesus' side, and we read in verse 34, (read). ~~Water and blood~~ Blood and water. Now we are told that this is a normal reaction of the body at death that the water separates itself from the blood and there are two distinct elements there. But I believe that this again stands to show that with the acceptance of this sacrifice of Jesus as our Saviour, the blood from His side flowed for each of ~~us~~ us. This blood was shed to cover our sins. But the water which flowed out with it, flowed forth to cleanse us of our daily sins of defilement. And we are to be ever reminded that it takes both in our lives to bring us to God. First is the once only sacrifice and shedding of blood, and second is the daily washing of water ~~through Christ~~ to continue our sanctification. ~~Think of what~~ God wants us to look at our lives continually and to examine them in the light of His revelation. How do you shape up in that light? Can you rejoice in the fact that you know your Saviour and His shed blood for you? Are ~~you~~ you also aware of the cleansing you need each day to remain undefiled before God?

Think of the wonderful God which we have. He has not only provided our deliverance from sin through Jesus Christ. But He has provided for cleansing of daily sin through His Laver Jesus Christ also. Here is a double blessing as revealed first as a Shadow, and then as a Reality.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Third Sunday in Lent March 18, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Ginger Harbison and Lloyd Link - Youth Choir Dir.
Jeff Knauer

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Entree" Dubois
*Processional Hymn No. 38 "O day of rest and gladness"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Eternal God, in Jesus Christ
you entered Jerusalem to die for our sins. We confess
we have not hailed you as King, or gone before you in
the world with praise. From brief faith that fades,
from enthusiasms that fizzle out, from hopes we parade
but do not pursue, have mercy upon us. Forgive us God;
and give us such trust in your power that, in every city,
we may live for justice and tell of your loving kindness;
for the sake of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 448 "I would be true"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray.
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Elevation" Dubois
Anthem: "The Law of the Lord" Youth Choir
(Psalm 19:7-11)
Scripture: Deuteronomy 10:12-22
Sermon: "God's Quad: 2 - Length"
P yver and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 273 "Jesus, Thy boundless love to me"

*Benediction

*Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin
*Postlude "Maestoso" Dubois

*Congregation Standing - - - - -
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Payne in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Robb Vinroe, Steve Smith,
Bob Dellen, Randy Dellen and Gordon Kennedy
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bolam will greet the Congregation at
the dOor this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Pauline Fencil and
Patty McWilliams.

Hospitalized: Wilmer Pfabe, Irene Forcht.

Tonight 6-7 - Jr. Youth Fellowship; 7-9 - Youth Fellowship

Tonight 7 - Teachers Training

Monday - 7:30 - Fidelity Bible Class

Tuesday - 7:00 - Bible Study

Wednesday 6-7 - Youth Choir Practice: Wed. 6:30 - Chancel

Wed. - 7:30 - Mid-Week Service Choir.

Thurs. - 10:30 A.M. - Mary Martha Circle. Bible Study
at the Church.

The attendance last week was 205..

Our thanks to Paul Harbison for assisting with the
Service today.

>First of April - Flowers will be \$15. In checking with
other florists and people from other churches, we find
this is not out of line. In fact they have been paying
this amount and more for quite sometime. Of course you
will receive credit on your financial statement for
Flowers put on the Altar.

>Wed. - 7:30 - Christian College Night, Calvary U. P.
Church for High School Students and Parents. You
will have opportunity to talk with representatives.
The Lily Chart was passed around last week. Lilies
are \$4.25. If you would want one please sign up in
the office.

Men's Good Friday Fellowship Breakfast - YMCA - 6:00 A.M.

See J. Walter Harmon or Kenneth Weitzel for tickets.-

Bill Thompson and Roy Andrews will be visiting the
hospital this week.

One Great Hour of Sharing Envelopes can be put in any
time this month. Please put your name of these.

"God's Quad: 2 - Length"
 Script: Deut. 10:12-22; Text: Deut 10:14
 (Illus There is no God)
 man y 2prov/disprov sinc creatin worl
 2thoz who disBliev, this strength; 2thoz Bliev prov
 But 2eithr prov/disprov requir start pt & think
 long thoz lines=Read Eph 2:17-19
 Ik at Cross as giv dimensns=last wk Bredth, 2day Leng
 Scrip 2day Mos spk 2Isr concern G's luv
 Vs 12=Fear L, walk ways, luv, serv all being
 vs 14=tel dimensn G luv=Length & also vs 17
 then go on & giv direc 4 livs & tel G bles as peop
 ince agin mus pt altho word ment 4 Isites, Bcum word
 prom 2 thoz sucesors & that U & Me & all fol Alm G
 Qadr 2 find tru dimens Length G luv sevrl thing do
 1st is 2 rest in that luv
 (Illus boy let God, chang in 2 Let Go)
 1st & mos import step Bcum not alway easy 2do
 we lk situ Bliev ariv solu, but lif no lik soap op
 (Illus hero figur by self wat 2do & do it & it work)
 This omit G & if want peac, mad worl mus Let Go, Let G
 & as pondr Length G luv kno we lik Ad & Eve R sinrs
 If Bliev anythin bout G, kno cano liv as pleas Bcum
 ther reward, punish this lif & next
 (Illus man auto accid, Shell station & man front S)
 Quite shok, espeel any1 no rt relatship G
 But kno G expec thing from us, shud mak concern 4us
 But as P sed=kno 2do rite, but do wrong insted
 Examp David=inflam pasion; fulfil & preg; arang Uriah,
 no do as expect; get drunk, no work; hav killed
 took Bathsheba as wife, but stil un4givn; Nathan
 ar G 4givnes & knu complet & sens 4giv so grt, writ
 music giv chief Musicin 2B sung worship 4giv G
 Bcum this D's prayr restor sung evr yr Day Atonemen
 Jewish services thruout worl
 Wat Length G luv? Extend 2lowly, weary sinsik persn
 It ther in persn Js Xp who sho Length by Calvry Hill
 & deth ther 4 U & Me; He G fulfil sin mankind
 Romans 8:31=35; 37-39, P inspir 2writ this luv
 (Illustration traveling life lik go thru tunnel)
 This "Length" G luv, no Bgin, no end & we travl thru
 it & wrap in His luv
 Js sed=Lo with U un2 end worl, Do U kno 4fact?
 Can U say kno His luv, 4givnes? If cant need turn lif
 ovr 2Him, surendr, submis & claim 4givnes thru Xp & re
 sult is lif restor made whol; it lif ful potential &
 ft of JOY; it lif knows Length G's luv thru Xp

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. 4 MARCH 24, 1996

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE APRIL 5, 7:30 P.M.
 THE LORD'S SUPPER

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE APRIL 7, 7:00 A.M.
 older children in service

BREAKFAST FOLLOWING SERVICE
 ALL INVITED

EASTER WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.
 YOUNGER CHILDREN IN SERVICE

FELLOWSHIP DINNER AFTER CHURCH APRIL 21,
 PLANNING FOR ANNIVERSARY

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY THIS WED 7-9 - ADULTS WELCOME

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN

SCRIPTURE: DEUTERONOMY 10:12-22
 SERMON: "GOD'S QUAD: 2 - LENGTH"
 ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 3/18/79

*HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 *POSTLUDE

RILEY (10 MONTH OLD GIRL)

UNSPICED - HELEN

MURKIN FAMILY - DEATH

LAIR

EDNA

FILED } ADULTS
 HILDA } HARRY

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FR/G'S LUV

(ILUS LIF LIK GO THRU TUNNEL BY DAY IN AUTO)
TH'S LENGTH G'S LUV

1 / IAS NO BGINING & IT HAS NO END

BUT WE R TRAVEL THRU IT & WE R WRAPPD IN IT BY HIS LUV
JS SED: "LO, I AM W/U ALWAYS EVN UNTO TH/END OF TH/WORLD"

CAN U SAY THAT U KNO HIS LUV & 4GIVNES

IF U CANT U NEED 2TURN UR LIF OVR 2HIM IN SEMPL SURENDR &
SUBMISSIN & CLAIM THAT 4GIVNES THRU JS XP

TH/RESULT OF 4GIVNES IS A LIF THAT IS RESTORD & MADE WHOLE
IT IS A LIF FUL OF POTENTIAL & FUL OF JOY

IT IS A LIF THAT KNOWS TH/LENGTH OF G'S LUV THRU XP

INVITATION TO ACCTP XP, RENEW, REAFRIM, PRAY

SCRIP: DEUT 10:12-22; SERM: G'S QUAD: 2 - LENGTH

(TINS ROBT INGERSOLL, LECTUR, WATCH & "THER IS NO GOD")

WHTR BLIEV/DISBLIEV THIS TYP THINK WIL STRGNTHN BLIEF/DISBLIEF
TH'S FEEBL EFORIT PROV TH/UNPRUWABL W/HUMAN MEANS

2REV IN G REQUIRS FAITH & FAITH LEADS BLIEVR 2SERCH 4 GOD
MOR FULLY

THAT SERCH WIL LEAD BLIEVR 2C TH/DIMENSINS OF G'S LUV
I DIREC OUR THINK 2 P'S WORDS AGIN EPH 3:17-19

ASK U ONCE AGIN THINK OF CROSS AS 4DIMENSINS P GIVS HERE
LAS WK ENTIR MORIZ BEAM - BREADTH G'S LUV

THIS WK LK ENTIR VERT LNGTH UPRIGHT AS LENGTH G'S LUV

WIL SKIP NEX WK P. SUN & POLO WK EASTR & THEN CUM BAK OTHR 2DIM

GAV MUSIC CHIEF MUSICIAN 2BSUNG IN WORSHIP THIS FORGIVING GOD
BCUZ OF THIS DAVID'S PRAYR 4RESTORATIN BIN SUNG EVRY YR ON
TH/DAY OF ATONEMENT IN JEWISH SERVICES THRUOUT TH/WORLD

WALK TH/FACE THIS ERTH IT EXTENDS 2EVRYLOWLY, SINSIK, WEARY
IT THER IN PERSN OF JS XP WHO SHO LENGTH G'S LUV WEN DY UPON

CALVARY'S CROS FOR YOU & ME
HE WAS COMPLET FULFIL 4SINS ALL MANK

HE WAS GOD & THAT IS TH/LENGTH OF G'S LUV

LISTEN WAT G INSPIRD APOS P WRIT BOUT THIS LUV=ROMANS 8:34-35

SCRIP MOSES SPK PEO ISR & HAD MANY THING 2SAY CONCENR DIMENSINS
OF G'S LUV

VS 12=FEAR G, WALK WAYS, LUV HIM, SERV W/ALL BEING

VS 14=DIMENSIN - LENGTH OF G'S LUV

VS 17=REITERATES WAT SED VS 14

VS 18=HVN IS G'S, ERTH ALSO

VS 19=IS GOD OF gods, LORD OF LORDS - ALL OF THIS IS L-E-N-G-T-H

VS 20=OF G'S LUV

THEN MOSES GOES ON TEL PEODIRECTINS 4LIVS & TEL HOW G HAS BLESS
THEM AS A PEOP

ALTHO THEZ WORDS AGIN WER MENT 4ISRITES THEY BCUM WORDS OF PRO
2THOZ WHO SUCEED THEM & THAT IS U & ME

TO FIND TRU DIMENSIN XXX LENGTH G'S LUV SEVRL THINGS MUS DO
FIRST- REST IN THAT LUV

(ILUS YNG MAN "LET GOD" MOTTO CHANG INTO "LET GO")

THIS IS FIRST & OPT MOS IMPORT STEP BCUZ NOT ALWAYS EASY 2DO
PEO LK LIF, C PRESENT SITU & IF NOT 2BAD, THINK THEY HAV ARIV
IDEAL SOLUTIN

BUT LIF NO LIK SOAP OPERA WHER USULY SUMONE SOLV ALL PROBS &
INVOLV NUTHIN MOR THAN JUS SIMPL SOLUTIN

THOZ SITUATINS THER NEVR NEED OR MENTIN OF GOD

IF WE WANT PEAC/COMP IN THIS MAD WORL WE LIV IN WE CANT MAK
OWN DECISINS

WE MUS LET GO, & LET GOD DIREC OUR LIVS

IF EVR TRYD USE OWN BRAINS/INGENUITY & FND WE FLOP, CAN UNDRST
THER MUSB BETTR WAY, & THAT BETTR WAY IS GOD

IT CANT WORK ANY OTHR WAY - NOT PILLS/DRS/SHRINKS, ETC

ONLY TURN LIF OVR 2 GOD & LET HIM DIRECT WILL DO IT

(ILUS NORMAN & SON & TURN HIM OVR 2GOD & IT IS WORKING)

IF WE BLIEV ANYTH BOUT G, & WHO & WAT HE IS, WE KNO WE CANT JUS
LIV THIS LIF ANYWAY WE PLEAS

WAS ITS REWARDS/PUNISHMENTS IN THIS WORL & TH/NEX

(JAN, ACIDENT, SHELL GAS STATIN, MAN BLOK "S")

CUDB QUITE SHOK SPECILY IF NOT RT RELATSHIP W/THE LORD

SHUD KNO G EXPEC CERTIN THINGS FR/US, & THIS SHUD MAK US CONCERN

2DO WAT HE WANTS & DESIRS

BUT WE FIND LIK APOS P - "TH/GUD I SHUD, I DO NOT, & INSTED, TH/
EVIL I SHUD NOT DO IS WAT I'DO"

WE R ALL ALIK THIS RESPECT

EXAMPLE: ONE GREST SERVS OF GOD IN BIBLE - DAVID

FIRST - INFLAND W/PASSIN 4NOTHR MAN'S WIFE, FULFIL PASIN-PREGNAN

4RANG FURLOUGH SOLDIER HUSBAND-SPEND NITE W/WIF-PREG, HIS BABY

URIAH TRU 2VOW REFRAIN FR/WOMEN WHIL COMBAT

GOT URIAH DRUNK - NO WORK, ARANG HAV KIL IN BATTL

PROGRESIN OF SIN-MARRY WIDOW, NO UNDO WRONG-DISCOVER, REPENT

HAV G'S 4GIVNES & HIS SENS OF SUCH PUT THIS EXPER TO MUSIC

"God's Quad: 2 - Length"

Scripture: Deuteronomy 10:12-22

Text: Deuteronomy 10:14

(Illustration "There Is No God")

Man has been trying to either prove or disprove God since the creation of the world. To those of us who believe there is a God this type of thinking will help to enhance and strengthen our belief. But to those who remain unconvinced it is merely another feeble effort at proving what is unprovable. But to either prove or disprove God requires that we start at a point and direct our thinking along those lines. Once again we read what Paul has to say about the dimensions of God's love as he was inspired to write to the church members of the church in Ephesus, (read Ephesians 2:17-19).

To direct our thinking toward God I would ask you once again to think of the cross as giving us these four dimensions. We spoke last week on the "Breadth" or width of God's love and we said this was represented by the horizontal cross-arm of the cross. This week let us think of the "Length" of God's love as represented by the entire vertical length of the cross.

In our Scripture for this morning Moses in speaking to the people of Israel had a lot of things to say to them concerning the dimensions of God's love. He told them first of all, verse 12, to fear the Lord, to walk in His ways, to love Him, and to serve Him with all of their being. In the 14th verse he tells of this dimension of "Length" in God's love, and he reiterates this in the 17th verse. Then he goes on to give some directions for their lives as well as to tell how God has blessed them as a people.

Once again we must point out that although these words were originally meant for the Israelites, they become the words of promise to the successors of those first people of God. And those successors happen to be you and me and all who want to follow after Almighty God.

But in order to find the true dimension of the "Length" of God's love, there are several things we must do. The first of course is to rest in that love.

(Illustration of young man and "Let God" being changed into, "Let Go.")

This is the first and often times the most important step because it isn't always the easiest thing to do. We look at our own life situation and we begin to think about it and first thing we know we have arrived at what we believe to be the ideal solution. But life isn't like the soap operas portrayed on TV which depict a scene in which some people get involved in a mess to which there seems to be no answer. Then perhaps the next scene will portray an individual from that group in contemplation talking to him or herself and arriving at what must be done. This type of thing ~~leaves~~^{omits} God from it entirely. If we are wanting to have ~~the~~ a sense of peace and comfort in this mad world in which we live, we cannot make our own decisions. We must "Let Go," and "Let God" direct our moves. If we have ever tried to straighten out our lives by using our own brains, or our own ingenuity and have made an utter flop of it, we can well understand that ~~the~~ there must be a better way. That better way my friends is through God's guidance and direction and it cannot be done any other way.

But as we ponder the "Length" of God's love we know that we are like Adam and are sinners before Him. If we believe anything about God and who and what He is, we know that we cannot just live this life as we please for it has its rewards and punishments ~~if not completely~~ in this life, and most assuredly in the next. (Illustration of man auto accident, taken to Shell station & man stand front S). This of course could be quite a shock, but especially to anyone who is not in a right relationship with the Lord. But knowing that God expects certain things of us should make us concerned with doing what He wants and desires from us. But even with the effort to do good and live right we know that as Paul has said "The good that I should do, I do not, but instead the evil I should not do is that which I do." In this respect we are all alike.

Think of one of the greatest servants that God ever had and then think how he committed several sins which cost him some blessings God had for Him. The man was David. First he let himself become inflamed with passion for another man's wife. Then when he had fulfilled his passion with her and it was discovered that she was pregnant he arranged for the return of her soldier husband so that

it would appear as though the child were his. When Uriah remained true to his
ng and kept his vow to stay away from all women while engaged for battle,
David got him drunk, but even this didn't work. Desperate now, David arranged
to have him placed in the forefront of the battle and he was killed. Here is
one sin piled on top of another to cover the first one. And even though David
took Bathsheba for his wife it didn't undo the wrong he had done. But when he
was confronted with these sins he repented and asked God's forgiveness and knew
it completely. In fact, his sense of God's forgiveness was so great he put his
experience to music and gave it to the chief musician to be sung in the worship
of this great forgiving God. Because of this David's prayer for restoration has
been sung every year on the Day Of Atonement in Jewish services throughout the
world. What is the "length" of God's love? It extends to each lowly, weary
sinsick person walking the face of this earth. It is there in the person of
Jesus Christ who showed the ~~complete~~ "Length" of that love when He died upon
Calvary's hill for you and me. He was God's complete fulfillment for all the
sins of all of mankind, ~~past, present and future~~

Listen to what God inspired the Apostle Paul to write about this love: Read
Romans 8:34-35; 37-39.

Nothing can separate us from God. ~~and this is the complete length of His love~~
As we travel this life it can be compared to traveling through a tunnel by day
in an automobile. We get into the tunnel and if you look back you can ^{see} light at
that end. If you look ahead you can see light at that end. Very shortly you
do not know whether you are closer to the end you entered, or if you are closer
to the end at which you will exit. And then just as suddenly you are out in the
bright sunshine again and all of the darkness is past. This is the "Length" of
God's love. It has no beginning, and it has no end. But we are traveling ~~thru~~
through it and we are wrapped in it by His love. Jesus said, "Lo I am with you
always even unto the end of the world." Do you know this for a fact? Can you
say that that you know His love and forgiveness? If you can't you need to turn
your life over to Him in simple surrender and submission, and claim that for-
giveness through Jesus Christ. The ~~life~~ result of forgiveness is a life that
(over)

is restored and made whole. It is a life full of potential and full of joy.

It is a life that knows the "Length" of God's love through Christ.

It would appear as though the child were dead, when truth remained true to his

and kept his vow to stay away from all women while engaged for battle.

David got his drunk, but even this didn't work. He separated now, David returned

to have him placed in the forefront of the battle and he was killed. Here in

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took Bathsheba for his wife it didn't undo the wrong he had done. But when he

was confronted with these sins he repented and asked God's forgiveness and knew

it completely. In fact, his sense of God's forgiveness was so great he put his

experience to music and gave it to the chief musician to be sung in the worship

of this great forgiving God. Because of this David's prayer for restoration has

been sung every year on the Day of Atonement in Jewish services throughout the

world. What is the "length" of God's love? It extends to each Jew, every

sinful person walking the face of this earth. It is there in the person of

Jesus Christ who showed the "length" of that love when he died upon

every's bill for you and me. He was God's complete fulfillment for all the

sins of all of mankind. *****

When we were inspired the Apostle Paul to write about this love: And

Romans 8:34-35:37-39.

Nothing can separate us from God. *****

As we travel this life it can be compared to traveling through a tunnel by day

in an automobile. We get into the tunnel and if you look back you can light up

that end. If you look ahead you can see light at that end. Very shortly you

do not know whether you are closer to the end you entered, or if you are closer

to the end at which you will exit. And then just as suddenly you are out in the

bright sunshine again and all of the darkness is past. This is the "length" of

God's love. It has no beginning, and it has no end. But we are traveling through

through it and we are wrapped in it by His love. Jesus said, "To I am with you

ways even unto the end of the world." Do you know this for a fact? Can you

say that that you know His love and forgiveness? If you can't you need to turn

your life over to Him in simple surrender and submission, and claim that for-

givenness through Jesus Christ. The first result of forgiveness is a life that

(over)

"Shadow To Reality: Light"
Exodus 25:31-40

Cum : 2furn insid Tab:& Tab consis 2rooms=H Pl & H.F
Cana=tik,lamstan locat SS H Place
vs 31a=Pure Gold & vs 39=talent G=100lb,25-50M
2day amount 2 = 400,000
idstik or lamstan made 1pc hamer metal
we cal 7 branch candelabra,hav main stam & 6branch
KJV say=Knops,Knobs & prob G ornament shap almond bud
they bowl which oil 2burn poured
no dimens givn but vs 40=Moses knu wat 2do
WHY Light necess? no windo Tab & G no giv ordr 4them
Accord our strnds G goof,but G no mak mistak,
He no want lite from outsid & had want He wud dun
only sorc lite olive oil burn continu=Ex 27:20
As 1k design Candstik can C Js Xp from beginning
vs 31=KJV has HIS,persnal mascu pronoun & mean indivic
No read IT,insted pt 2 Js Xp
If 1k stanpoint main stem & 6branch pictur Xp & Church
He main stem,peop arms mak Body of Xp
numbr 6=man;1=Deity & add=7 perf numb & all Blievr
made perfec thru Him
Oil reveal Xp nothr way:Dav say=Word lamp feet, lite
path
Wat Js Xp? Jn say WORD,flesh dwel among us
Js=Word,& Word=Bible,& Js reveal thru Word
He liv reveal thru mankind thru H Sp & so cud say=
THY WORD,JS XP,IS LAMP 2MY FEET,& THY H SP THE OIL IN
MY THAT LAMP,IS LITE UN2 MY PATH
If C in this lite shud B abl C Js Xp reveal Candstik
Bcuz whil in Tab priest depen lamp & Oil 4lite
Men step outsid naturl lite,no C glory G reveal Gol
Ovr bords,Gold cherubim wings,white linen ceiling
Had 2B in that Lite & Lite 4us is Js Xp
Mus walk footstep that Lite always
Jn 9:5=Whil in worl,& wher He now? Anser=G in heavn
Duz mean Lite gone out?
Mt 5:14-16=Ye means YOU & wat He say bout let Lite
shin He mean that He,Js Xp is seen in U by lif Uliv
R U shining as 1 of G'S Lites?
Can peop C Js Xp shin 4th UR life?
Need 2ask selvs thez quests & C wher stand
Js revel G's uniq candstik as seen in person
No cum as nothr philos,grt thinkr
He cam shar that Lite which G revel & Bcuz deth &
Res we hav Lite ovrcum all darknes worl
But G want us 2kno mor fully & reveal 2othrs how liv
Mt 5:16 (Read) Let Js shin your harts livs 4all of
life

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Lenten Service March 21, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "Sicilian Mariners" Morris
*Processional Hymn No. 466 "He leadeth me"
*Ascription
*Call to Worship "I Bind my Heart"
Evening Prayer
Announcements - *SIGN BOOK "WHO'S WHO"*
Offering
Offertory "Pilgrim's Song" Mendelssohn
Duet: "Lord, I Adore Thee" arr. R.J. Hughes
Sung by Dutch and Howdy Bolam
Scripture Exodus 25:31-40
Sermon: "Shadow To Reality: Light"
*Hymn of Dedication No. 471 "More love to Thee, O Christ"
*Benediction
*Response "We Do All Adore Thee" Dubois
*Postlude: "Tallis Canon" Morris
----- *Congregation Standing -----
Serving as Ushers tonight are: *Rob Vinroe, Robert
Dellen, Randy Dellen and Gordon Kennedy.
Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will greet the Visitors
and Congregation at the door this evening.
New Members will be received on Palm Sunday April 8.
If you know of anyone interested in joining the Church
put their name on a slip of paper and put it in the
offering plate or give it to the Pastor.
One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes are to be used
next Sunday. Please put your name on the envelope,
additional ones are in the Narthex.

See you in Church next Sunday.

"Shadow To Reality: Light"

Exodus 25:31-40

We now come to the furniture inside of what was called the "Holy Place."
The Tabernacle

This was the outer room of the Tabernacle itself. ~~It~~ consisted of two rooms. The Holy Place, and the Holy Of Holies.

The Candlestick, or Lampstand was located on the South Side of the Holy Place. God gave the instructions for its construction in the portion which we read as Scripture for this evening. Moses was first instructed to make this Lampstand of pure gold, vs 31a. In verse 39 we are told that the Lampstand and the tongs and snuffers were to be made of a talent of gold. At the time of the making of this Lampstand a talent weighed almost 100 pounds and was worth about 25 to 50,000 dollars. On today's market this same gold would be worth around 400,000 dollars. The ingenious thing about this Candlestick or Lampstand is that it was made all ^{of} ~~in~~ one piece of ^{HAMMERED} metal. It was what we would call a seven branch candlelabra. It was to have a main stem with six branches, three coming out of each side.

It was to have golden ornaments of what the King James Version calls "Knops," or as others call, "Knobs". These "Knops" could have been ornaments in the shape of an almond blossom or bud. But whatever it actually was, ~~it was~~ they formed a bowl into which the oil for burning could be poured.

We must say that once again no dimensions were given, but that God tells Moses in the 40th verse to make it ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ according to the pattern he had been given on the mount. So we can only assume that Moses knew how to make it and what size, shape and so on, but did not go into detail at this point.

Now as we ponder the use of this Candlestick there are some things about it which are quite unique. First of all ~~why~~ was it necessary? To answer this we must remember that there were no windows in the Tabernacle and God had not given orders to have any placed in it. According to our standards we would probably say that God surely goofed in not providing ^{for natural} ~~xxxxxx~~ light ~~into the~~ to light the Tabernacle. But God did not make a mistake about this.

God didn't want the outside light to enter the Tabernacle. Had He wanted that His design of the Tabernacle would have been different. The only source of light was to come from the olive oil which was to burn continuously in the lamp and we read this in Exodus 27:20. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

As we look at the very design of the Candlestick we can identify it as representing Jesus Christ from the very beginning. In the latter part of the 31st verse we read, (read this). Now I must point out that again this is the King James Version and probably reads differently in other versions. But look at the personal pronoun "His." Doesn't it stand to reason that this is something God is pointing to as being a person? Doesn't it point out that this is something different and unique from the rest of the descriptions given? God isn't giving directions and using the impersonal "It". It doesn't read, ~~XXXXXX~~ "Its shaft, its branch etc." It reads, "His shaft, His branch etc." This is the masculine personal pronoun and should point us to Jesus being the Candlestick.

If we look at it from the standpoint of there being one main stem and six arms going out from that stem we can picture this as Christ and His church. He is the main stem, and the arms are the church and the people who make up the Body of Christ. The number six is the number of man. One is always Deity or God. Add six and one and you get seven and seven is the number of perfection. All believers by their union with Christ are made perfect through Him. The oil is also important to us in that it reveals Jesus Christ in another way. The Psalmist David says, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." What is Jesus Christ? The Apostle John identifies Him in his gospel as "The Word." "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." Now Jesus is "The Word," but the "Word" also refers to God's Holy Word, the Bible. So thinking that Jesus is "The Word," or the revelation from God, we need to also think that He is revealed through God's "Word" or the Bible. But how does He continue to be revealed to mankind today? Through the Holy Spirit which is God's Spirit living in, and directing the lives of His people. So

we could interpret this verse from Psalm 119 as, "Thy Word, Jesus Christ, is a lamp unto my feet, and Thy Holy Spirit the oil in that lamp, is a Light unto my path." If we can see it in this ~~right~~ manner we should be able to see Jesus Christ revealed in this Candlestick, for we can ~~xxx~~ understand that while in the Tabernacle the priest was dependent upon the oil in the Lamp to continue burning to give forth light, and the lamp to continue to hold the oil so that it could burn. When he stepped outside he was in the natural light and the beauty which surrounded him in the interior of the Tabernacle was gone. He had to be within the Tabernacle to see the gold covered boards, the white linen ceiling, and the golden cherubim with outstretched wings. In ~~xxx~~ order to have this he had to be where God wanted him to be. For the believer this is also true. In order to see and witness the beauty of what God has for each of us we need to be in that "Light" and the Light of course is Jesus Christ. Our walk needs to be directed in His footsteps always.

But we also see something signified here which Jesus Himself told us. In John's Gospel the 9th chapter and the 5th verse we read something which we have all read probably several times and yet I wonder if we have ever discovered the full implications of it. Jesus says, "As long as I am ~~in the world~~, I am the Light of the world." So we need to ask where is He now? The answer of course is that He is with God in heaven. Does this mean then that the Light has gone out? Well, if we look at the Sermon on the Mount as it is recorded for us in the Gospel of Matthew we can see what Jesus wanted to impart to all of His followers. In the 5th chapter the 14th through the 16th verses. "Ye" means, "You" are the Light of the world. And by what He says about letting your light shine, He is stating that He, Jesus Christ is seen in you by your life which you live. This makes a very sobering thought when we consider that quite often we do not reflect much in the way of light. In fact, quite often there is a darkness about our lives which gives the impression to people that there isn't much of the light of God within our lives. Are you shining forth as one of God's lights? Can people actually see Jesus Christ shining through your life? We need to ask ourselves these

questions to see just where we stand. Jesus is the revelation of God's unique Candlestick as seen in a person. He didn't just come into the world as another philosopher, or great thinker. He came and shared that Light which is God's revelation and because of His death and resurrection we have the Light that overcomes any and all darkness of this world. But God wants us to know it more fully and reveal it to others by how we live. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 25, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Jeff Knauer - Acolyte

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Prelude and Fugue in G minor" Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 272 "Love divine, all loves excelling"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Father Almighty, we know that we have gone into hiding, even though we have been made for thy glory. We have tried to keep away from thy presence. Forgive us and bring us once again to the place where we may see thee and sing praises to thy majesty; through Jesus Christ. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Solo: "Jesus is Close by Your Side" Newman
Sung by Howdy Bolam
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "But the Lord is Mindful of His Own"
Anthem: "Brother James' Air: Gordon Jacob
Sung by the Chancel Choir
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Sermon: "God's Quad: 3 - Depth"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 266 "Lord God of Hosts"

*Benediction

*Choral Response "The Lord Bless You" Lutkin

*Postlude "Toccata" Dubois

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar today have been placed

by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dreher in memory of "Loved Ones"

Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don

Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.

Deacon and Mrs. LeRoy Andrews will greet the Congregation

and Visitors at the door today.

Nursery will be provided today by:

Harry Burns and Harry Fry will be visiting the hospital this week.

Tonight - 6-7 - Jr. Youth Fellowship: 7-9 - Youth Fellowship meeting.

Tonight - 7 - Teachers Training

Wed. - 7:30 - Lenten Service

Attendance last Sunday was 238

The Easter Lilies will be \$4.25 - The slip has been passed around. If you would like to have an Easter Lily - please sign up in the Office.

First of April - Flowers will be \$15. In checking with other florists and people from other churches, we this is not out of line. They have been paying this amount and more for quite sometime. You will receive credit on your financial statement for flowers put on the Altar.

> One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes can be put in this Sunday. There are additional ones in the Narthex if you forgot yours. Please put your name on the envelope so you can receive credit.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Larry Stewart on the Birth of a Son - March 17th.

There are so many good books in Library just waiting to be read. April 1st - someone will be in the Library before and after Church for your convenience.

> April 8 - New Members will be received - If you know of anyone wanting to join the church, put a note in the offering plate or contact the Pastor.

Holy Communion will be served on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. There will be no Communion on Easter.

"God's Quad: 3 - Depth"
Scrip: 1 Cor 1:18-25; Text 1 Cor. 1:25

P 4 dimen G luv in Eph=Bredth,Length,Dept,& Hgt
We nav direc 2cros & 2day vert sect upritr=DEPTH
Wen spk D G's luv in ch can C dif persp than thoz
or 'sid,but even sum membris find dif 2comprehend
(Illus Ch bultin=many join ch,confusn of faith)
We kno wat shud B,I hope,but P fac Cor church
deal Jew,Gr & neithr underst D G's luv Bcuz bakgr
vs 18=main prob,Jew,Gr no acpt criminal ldr cultr
vs 19=P plead case quot Isa 29:14 READ
Vs 20=Quest scholrs Jew & Gr
vs 21=Giv benefit doubt cal preach foolish,but pt out
thru it G use this 2get peop saved
They saw round them & knu mesag Deth/Resur Js Xp
Vs 22=P knu Jew mind & prob thot 2distinct events
(Cor 1tr 55,& 45 Theudas & Jordan river : 55 man
sum Egypt,Mt Olives,30M & comman wal Jeru fall)
Jew thot Mess 2B lik this,conquer overthro etc
Gr no Bliev G cud Stoop 2B human,2sufr les than Go
(~~quote Jesus attack on Ypianity~~)
Incarn made no sens 2Gr,& their wisdom impossib
Vss 23-24=2sum mad no sens,but 2othrs=wisdom or DEPTH
Vs 25=P sho this complete
If underst anythin bout G,mus underst G reward/punis
No mak G mean Fr no aproach,insted sho canno toler
sin & no correct
Ther4 Blief Byond this lif plac 4ea determ by pers
(Illus Catholic Lady,Protestant man & Hell)
Hvn 4 Blievr,Hell 4unBlievr=Saved,unsaved
But G luv thoz nevr abl 2kno Js Xp & liv B4 Him
P out Eph 4:8-10 READ & this Apos Creed=He desecne
in Hades,plac of ded
took plac aft Js deth cros & acord many Bib Scholrs
this wher Js dur time deth & resur & underst bettr
wen kno wat Js say aft resur=NO TOUCH I NO ASCEND 2
MY FATHER YET
& in this action can C very Depth G's luv 4 His crea
Only G cud luv lik this
(Illus P Harvey & Penny & Church)
Jus wat our totl commit 2Him
Do U sho 4th Ur luv by striv liv betr livs? Do U
sho by giv 2Him as U shud? need ask quests & chek
depth our luv 2 Him
P wrot Rom bout sam tim Cor & read 11:33,cum realiz
Dpt G's luv 4 peop Byon anythin imagin & only known
felt if wil do sumthin bout it
(Illus Jul Caesar & burn boats Bhind)darin mov 2mak
Ned 2burn Bhin us thoz thing keep uncomit:no propty
matrrial poss,persn,shud B worthy compet 4Js Xp

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 14, 1996

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS
CONG DINNER/MEETING - NEXT SUNDAY APRIL 21

THANKS FOR RINTRAY

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25
SERMON: "GOD'S QUAD: 3 - DEPTH"
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 3/25/79

*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

MARIE

ETHEL

LYNN - KREE

JANE -

MARY

CARL & PAMELA

ROMANS 11:33

PAUL HAD CUM REALIZ "DEPTH G'S LUV" FOR HIS PEOPLES BYON ANYTH ANYONE CUD IMAGIN

BUT THAT "DEPTH" CAN ONLY B KNOWN/FELT IF WE WILLING 2DO SUMTH ABOUT IT

(I. JULIUS CAESAR, BATTL FOR BRITAIN, BURN BOATS BEHIND)

DARING MOV & ONLY CUD PRES FORWARD, SCUZ ESCAP OUT OF QUESTIN THINK LIF THIS MANNR WE MUS BURN OUR BOATS BHIND US OR THOZ THINGS THAT KEEP US UNCOMMITTED TO HIM

NUTHIN, NO MATERIAL POSSESSIONS, PROPERTY, NOR ANY PERSON SHUDE CONSIDERED WORTHY COMPETITION FOR TH/SON OF GOD

JS XP SHUDE #1 IN OUR LIVES & ONLY THEN WIL WE KNO TH/COMPLET "DEPTH" OF G'S LUV & TH/FULFILLMENT OF IT IN OUR LIVES

WAT IS TH/DEPTH OF OUR LUV FOR OUR SAVIOR IN COMPARISON TO HIS LUV FOR US????

Js Xp shud B #1 our livs & only then wil kno compl DEPTH G's luv & fulfillment in our livs
WAT is Depth Ur luv 4Ur Savior in comparison f tx 2 Depth His luv 4U?

scrip; 1 COR 1:18-25; SERM: "G'S QUAD: 3 - DEPTH"

2DAY RETURN 2SERIES ENTITLED="GOD'S QUAD," MEANING 4 THINGS OF G
APOSTL P GIV US 4DIMENSINS G'S LUV & FND EPH 3:17-19

WE IARED BREDTH, LENGTH B4 EASTER & NOW 2DAY SHARE DEPTH

ONCE AGIN THINK OF CROSS:

ENTIRE CROSSBEAM WE SED SHOWED TH/BREADTH - OR WIDTH G'S LUV

ENTIRE VERTICAL UPRIGHT WE SED SHOWED TH/LENGTH OF G'S LUV

NOW LK VERTICAL UPRIGHT FR/CROSSBEAM DOWN, & THIS SHOWS
TH/DEPTH OF G'S LUV

WEN SPK OF "DEPTH" OF G'S LUV IN XPIAN CH, WE PROB C FR/DIF
PERSPECTIV THAN THOZ OUTSID TH/CHURCH

BUT EVN THEN MANY MEMBRS FIND HARD 2COMPREHEND

(ILUS BULLETIN MISPREINT BOUT PEOPL JOIN CHURCH

"MANY HAVE JOINED OUR CHURCH ON CONFUSIN OF FAITH)

WE KNO SHUD HAV BIN "CONFESIN OF FAITH"

BUT PAUL FACED THIS "CONFUSIN OF FAITH" IN TH/COR CHURCH

HE DEAL W/BOTH JEWS & GRKS & NEITHR OF THEM COMPLETELY UNDRSTUD
TH/DEPTH OF G'S LUV 4THEM BCUZ OF THER PAST BAKGROUNDS & CULTURS

LK AT VERSE 18

EPHESIANS 4:8-10

G SAW FIT RELEAS THOZ WHO BLIEVD IN G & TRUST HIM IN FAITH
AND WERE IN HADES,WH/IS TH/PLACE OF TH/DED

1) TUK PLAC AFTR JS DETH ON CROSS & ACORD MANY BIB SCHOLRS
WAS WHER JS WAS DURING HIS DETH & B4 HIS RESURECTIN

ALSO UNDRSTAN THIS WEN AFTR RESURECTIN WUDNT ALOW DISCIPLS 2TUCH HIM
HE SED=I HAV NOT YET ASCENDED TO MY FATHER"

IN ALL THIS CAN C VERY "DEPTH" G'S LUV FOR HIS CREATIN
WEN CP G'S LUV 4US & OUR LUV 2HIM CERTINLY FIND OUR LUV IS
LAKING IN MANY WAYS

(ILUS PAUL HARVEY & REMARK BOUT PENNY & CHURCHES)

WAT OUR TOTAL COMIT 2HIM? STRIV LIV BETTR LIVS? GIV WAT SHUD?
NEED ASK SELVSTHEZ QUESTINS & CHEK "DEPTH" OUR LUV

P WRIT BOUT SAME TIME OR LATR 2ROMAN CH 11:33

VS 18=MAIN PROB OF JEWS & GRKS

DIF GRASP TRU ~~MEANING~~ MESAG OF XP

JEWS=FR/TEACH MOSES ANYONE EXECUTD AS CRIMNAL,OR HANG LK JS

FIGURTIVLY WAS - WAS ACURSED

GRKS=NO BLIEV ANYONE EXECUTD AS CRIMNAL WAS AN'ONE 2FOLO
W 4P CONTINU PLEAD CASE & QUOT FR/ISAIAH 29:14

VS 20=QUESTINS WHER R TH/SCHOLARS OF BOTH JEW & GRK

VS 20B=QUESTIN BOUT G MAK WISDOM OF WORLD FOOLISH

(ILUS DAILY BRED OF L'S PRAYER WRITTN IN LEGALIESE)

THIS ONLY PART OF WAT WISDOM OF WORL IS - THEOLOGINS ETC

VS 21=PR FOOLISHNES,BUT PEO GET SAVD THRU IT

PR IS MESAG MINSTRY,LIF,DETH,RESUR OF JS & G USE IT AS WI

VS 22=P PERHAP THINK 2DISTINC SIGNS SINC ASCENSIN OF JS

(ILUS OF THEUDAS & SO CALLED "PROPHET")

GRKS NO BLIEV G STOOP 2B HUMAN & 2SUFFR AS HUMANS DO IS TO

RENDER HIM LESS THAN GOD

(QUOTE OF CELSUS ATTACKER OF XPIANXPIANTY IN 2ND CENTURY)

VS 23=XPIANS BLIEV,OTHS DO NOT

VS 24=THOSE WHO BLIEV IT GIVS THEM TH/WISDOM OF GOD

VS 25=SO CALLED ~~WISDOM~~ "FOOLISHNESS/WEAKNES"OF GOD STNRGR,BI

THAN ANYTH MAN MAY DO

IF UNDRSTAN ANYTH BOUT G,KNO HE REWARD & PUNISH

NO MEAN OGRE,BUT NO STAND ALL MANK MAY DO

THERFOR BLIEV BYCN THIS LIF THER PLACE 4EA PERSN ~~MEANING~~

TERMIN BY WAT DO W/G IN THIS LIF

(ILUS PROTESTANT MAN,CATHOLIC LADY & HELL)

HVN=BLIEVRS, HELL=UNBLIEVRS

BUT MUS ALSO KNO THAT LUV OF G EXTEND 2THOZ LIV B4 JS & NE
HAD CHANC 2KNO HIM

I)POSTLES CREED WE SAY:

"HE" - MEANING JESUS, "DESCENDED INTO HADES"

PAUL POINT THIS OUT IN EPH 4:8-10

"God's Quad: 3 - Depth"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:25

Paul has given us the four dimensions of God's love in his letter to the Ephesians. They are the Breadth, the Length, the Depth, and the Height. We have directed these four dimensions to the cross where we can picture them as being revealed. Today I would direct your thinking again to the cross and for the dimension of the Depth of God's love to think of the lower section of the vertical upright of the cross as representing that Depth. From the cross arm down to the earth God's Depth is to be discovered.

When we speak of the depth of God's love in the Christian church ~~we~~ perhaps we can see it from a different perspective than those outside of the church. But even then I am sure it is difficult for many church members to comprehend. One church bulletin mistakenly stated, "many have joined our church on confusion of faith." We of course know it should have been confession of faith, (at least I hope we do.) But this is exactly what Paul faced in the Corinthian church. He was dealing with both Jews and Greeks. Neither of them completely understood the "Depth" of God's love for them because of their past backgrounds and ~~xxxxx~~ culture.

In verse 18 he points out what their main problem was. It was difficult for either of them to grasp the true meaning of the message of Christ. The Jews knew from the teachings of Moses that anyone who was executed as a criminal, or hanged as Jesus figuratively was, that person was ~~xxxxx~~ accursed. The Greeks also didn't believe that anyone who was executed as a criminal was someone they could follow.

So Paul continues to plead his case by going back to the written words of the prophet Isaiah. He quotes directly from the 29th chapter, the 14th verse, (read this). He then questions where these scholars of both the Jews and Greeks are at this time, vs 20. He gives them the benefit of doubt by calling preaching foolishness, but points out through it God uses this to get people saved, vs 21. They could see these results all around them and they knew that

this foolishness included the message of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In verse 22 Paul points out that the Jews needed a sign to believe and he was probably thinking of two very distinct kinds of signs the Jews would fall for that he had heard about since the ascension of Jesus Christ. ^{This} ~~The~~ letter to the church in Corinth was written around 55 AD. In 45 AD a man named Theudas had come forth as the promised Messiah. He had persuaded ^(thousands of) people to ~~follow him~~ ^{leave their} homes and to follow him to the Jordan river. There he had promised them that upon command ~~the~~ ^{PART} the River would ^{and} he would lead them across walking on the dry riverbed. Of course this didn't happen and he was shown up for what he was. Around 55 AD another man came from Egypt to Jerusalem. He said he was the prophet. He persuaded 30,000 people to follow him out to the mount of Olives. There he said on a word of command from him the walls of Jerusalem would fall flat. Needless to say they did not and he was proven to be the charlatan he was. But this is what the Jews expected the Messiah to be. He was supposed to be someone who would appear rather dramatically and do superhuman things and especially to throw off the yoke of slavery and captivity their captors held them in.

The Greeks on the other hand could not believe that God could ever stoop to be human. For God to suffer anything as humans do would render Him less than God. A Greek named Celsus who vigorously attacked Christians and Christianity in the second century wrote, (Quote of Celsus as found in Barclay, Daily Study Bible series, Volume on Corinthians, Page 21).

The Greeks could not accept very easily the Incarnation, or God became Flesh as John tried to point out to them. This was a total impossibility. They also sought after wisdom and therefore something as common as this didn't make sense. So Paul goes on to point out in verse 23 that this belief was something which some Jews and some Greeks could not accept, but to those who did believe, Vs 24 it gave them the wisdom of God. Or, in other words, pointed out the complete "Depth" of God's love. He concludes his remarks with the words, (read verse 25), and here he points out that God moves in different ways than man expects.

If we understand anything at all about God, we must understand that God not only rewards but God punishes as well. This doesn't make God out to be some mean Father who cannot be approached, but instead shows that He cannot tolerate every thing that man does and just let it slide by. Therefore, we have the belief that beyond this life there is a place for each person determined by what we do with God in this life.

(Illustration of Protestant and Catholic lady and Hell)

If we know anything about salvation through Christ we know that heaven is reserved for those who have accepted His salvation and Hell is for the unbeliever. But we also need to know of the love God had for those who never were able to know Jesus Christ and lived before Him. This is what is meant by the portion of the Apostles Creed which says, "He, (meaning Jesus), descended into Hades," and ~~this is~~ this is what Paul is pointing out in his letter to the Ephesians in the 4th chapter, verses 8 to 10, (read this). This means that God saw fit to release those ~~from Hades, the place of the dead~~ who had believed in God and trusted Him in faith, from Hades, which is the place of the dead. This took place after Jesus death on the cross and according to many Biblical scholars is where Jesus was during His death and ^{BEFORE HIS} resurrection. We can understand this also when we remember that He would not permit His disciples to touch Him following His resurrection because He said, "I have not yet ascended to my Father." But in this particular action, we can see the very depth that God went to in order to show His love for His creation. Only God could go to an extreme such as this. When we compare God's love to us and then our love to Him we certainly must find that our love is lacking in so many ways.

(Illustration of Paul Harvey saying penny cost more than penny to produce)

Just what is our total commitment to Him? Do ~~we~~ ^{you} show forth ~~our~~ ^{your} love by striving to live better lives? Do you show it by giving to Him what you should, and as you should? We need to ask ourselves these questions to check the "Depth" of our ~~our~~ love.

Paul wrote to the church in Rome either about the same time as he wrote to the church in Corinth or perhaps a little later. But he wrote in the 11th chapter,

the 33rd verse, (read this). He had come to realize that the "Depth of God's love for His people was beyond anything that anyone could imagine. But that "Depth" can only be known and felt if we are willing to do something about it. (Illustration Julius Caesar and battle for Britain, burning boats behind)

This was a daring move to take and it meant that the only thing they could do was to press forward because all escape was out of the question. If we think of life in this manner we must burn our boats behind us, or those things which keep us ~~xxxxxx~~ completely uncommitted to Him. Nothing, no property, or material possession, nor any person should be considered ~~w~~orthy ~~xxx~~ competition for the Son of God. Jesus Christ should and must be number 1 in our lives and only then will we know the complete "Depth" of God's love and the fulfillment of it in our lives. What is the "Depth" of ~~xxx~~ ^{your} love for ~~xxx~~ ^{your} Saviour, in comparison to ~~Him~~ the "Depth" of His love for you?

Shadow To Reality: Table"
Scripture: Exodus 25:23-30

Nex pc furntur H Pl=Tabl, or Tabl Shewbred
L at NS room & if remem Lampstan SS, on priest l/R
only Pr entr H Pl & minis B4 G 4 peop & Js Xp
ak ther plac & He minis B4 G 4 Blievr
V 23=Tabl Acacia wood & Locus sam famly
3ft long X 1 1/2ft Wide X 2 1/2ft High
Vs 24a=ovrlay pur gold with Gold crown
Vs 25=2nd Gold crown handbreth Btween & this crown
2keep bred on Table & speak securty found in Js Xp
Doubl securty=1st wat did giv stand B4 G
Wat is do now in Glory continu that securty
Vss 26-27=Gold rings 4 poles
Vs 28=Handles or poles overlay Gold & agin Humanty
of Js=Acacia wood & Gold=Deity Js
one covr other=humanty/incarnation
Kohathites carry Tabl & bake bred
Vs 29=Covrs, dishes, mayB cups 4 wine & covrs
Comtators say & Josephus Jewsh historian speak
cup incense=Frankincense
Sum say sprinkl on top bred, any event Fincens burn
altr giv sweet smel aroma 2 H Pl, lik Balsam
This symbol of acceptance
Lampstan & Tabl with bred win=Light, food, drink 4pr
Bred unleavn no spoli
12 lovs=1ea tribe replac ever Sabath, priest eat
old bred
Dun stand up, no seat, lik Passovr redy 2run
Bred=Js Xp Body=He sed, I am bred of life
all Blievr ther 4 taking & this speak relship
can hav with Xp Bcuz G giv 2 mankind
As exam ea pc furntur & compar 2 Js Xp, canB overcum
by buty of furn & 4get real purpos of it
(Illus DaVinci & paint Last Suppr, Cup of Xp)
This dangr in everthing & espec in Tabernacle
Ea pc had purpos & that purpos 2 pt way Isites cum
B4 G
G remind in ea thing He giv self 2 & 4 them
This respec Tabnacl Shado thing 2cum
& Reality this burst 4th lif, ministry, deth, resurr
Js Xp
Shud lk all this rev G in Tab & in person Js Xp

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Butler, Pennsylvania

Lenten Service March 28, 1979

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor

Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "Fanfare on 'St. Gertrude'" Young
*Processional Hymn No. 290 "Stand up, stand up for Jesus"
*Ascription
*Call to Worship "I Bind My Heart"
Evening Prayer
Announcements
Offering
Offertory "Voluntary" Fuhrer
Anthem: "You're Not Your Own" Root
Scripture: Exodus 25:23-30
Sermon: "Shadow to Reality: Table"
*Hymn of Dedication No. 271 "O Jesus, I have promised"
*Benediction
*Response "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee" Dubois
*Postlude: "Postlude in C-" Anon.
----- *Congregation Standing -----
Serving as Ushers tonight are: *Richard Mangel,
Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Elder and Mrs. Paul Campbell will greet the Congregation
at the door this evening.
Easter Lilies will be \$4.25. Contact Bea in the office
if you would like to have one.

"Shadow To Reality: Table"

Scripture: Exodus 25:23-30

We now come to the next piece of furniture in the Holy Place and that is the Table, or the Table of Shewbread. This table was located on the North Side of the room. If you remember the Lampstand was placed on the South Side and now the Table on the North Side. This meant that as the priest entered the Holy Place the Lampstand was on his left and the Table was on his right. Only the priests could enter the Holy Place. They ministered for the people before God. But because of what God did for mankind in that Jesus Christ has become the High Priest for each individual person, every believer can come directly to God and there is no need for a priest to intercede on his behalf.

Once again God gives the instructions to Moses regarding the shape and size of the Table. In the ^{23rd} ~~23rd~~ verse we read that the table is to be made of Acacia wood. This wood was a tough wood that grew under very adverse conditions in the desert. We said once before that our Locust trees are of the same family as the Acacia tree.

The table was to be 3 feet long, 1½ feet wide and 2½ feet high, vs ^{23b} ~~23b~~. It was to be overlaid with pure gold, vs ^{24a} ~~24a~~. There was to be a gold molding or crown around the edge of it, vs ^{24b} ~~24b~~, and this served the purpose of keeping the 12 loaves of bread on the Table. The reason being that if the loaves fell on the ground they would have become defiled and they were to remain pure. A part of the significance of the golden molding is that this is a symbol also of the work of Jesus Christ. He keeps the believer secure in the presence of God. This gives every believer a security before God which he could not have on his own, but it belongs to him because of the love of Jesus Christ. Actually, there were two crowns or edges around the Table, with a hand breadth between them, vs ²⁵ ~~25~~. This not only speaks of the security given to believers by Jesus Christ, but it speaks of double security. What He did for us gives us our standing before God: but also what He is, and is doing for us now in glory continues to keep us in that security. He not only gave Himself for us to bring us into the fold, but He is seated at the right hand of God to intercede on our behalf.

Then God instructed Moses to make 4 golden rings, to place poles through so it could be carried, vs 26-27. Then God gave instructions to make handles or poles of Acacia wood and overlay this wood with gold~~xxxThe~~ vs 28. This Acacia wood of the Table and poles speaks again of the humanity of Jesus Christ. The ~~xx~~ gold speaks of His deity. The humanity is covered by the fact that He was God in the flesh. Conversely the Deity of Jesus is covered by His coming in the flesh or humanity of man.

It was the Kohathites who were in charge of carrying the Table. They were also in charge of baking the bread. God gives the final instructions to Moses in the 29th verse about the dishes and covers. The only things which were placed on this Table was 12 loaves of bread, one for each tribe and cups of wine. Probably, this is what is being referred to in the 29th verse.

And of course the last verse of this block of Scripture tells of having Bread on the Table before the Lord always. This bread was considered something like a meat offering to God and was displayed before Him for 7 days. Each Sabbath day fresh bread was brought to the Holy Place, and the priests placed these fresh loaves on the Table and then proceeded to eat the old 12 loaves. A fine powdered Frankincense was sprinkled on top the loaves according to some commentators and Josephus the Jewish historian tells of golden cups being filled with Frankincense standing beside the loaves. But whatever the case we do know that Frankincense was burned on the altar while the priests ate the bread. This Frankincense sent up a sweet odor or perfume to God and throughout the Holy Place. The smell of it was like Balsam which would have given it a pine smell. This was the symbol of acceptance.

Thus we see with the Lampstand in the Holy Place and the Table with Bread and Wine upon it, there was Light, and there was food and drink for the priests. The bread was unleavened and so it did not spoil. The priests ate standing up. There were no seats for them to sit on. This was symbolic of the leaving of Egypt and eating the Passover meal being ready to move out at the command of Almighty God. The Bread is once again the symbol of Jesus' body given for mankind. Jesus Himself said, "I am the Bread of Life." This should indicate

to all believers that He is there for the taking. But speaking of Bread and eating it, should remind us that the Bread in the Holy Place speaks of the fellowship we can have with Christ because of God's giving of Him to mankind. As ~~When~~ we examine each piece of furniture and compare it to Jesus Christ, we can be overcome by the beauty of the furniture itself and forget its real purpose. (Illustration of DeVinci and painting of Last Supper, Cup of Christ)

Each article of furniture and each detail of the Tabernacle had one purpose and one purpose only. That purpose was to point the way for the Israelites to come before God. They were to be reminded of the offering of God Himself in each of these things. In this respect the complete Tabernacle and everything in it was a Shadow of things to come. The Reality burst forth in the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We should always look to all of this as God's revelation of Himself to the Israelites in the Tabernacle, and to the rest of mankind in the person of Jesus Christ.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fifth Sunday in Lent April 1, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefreund, Sandy Ferree - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M. Bach
Prelude "When in the Hour of Utmost Need"

*Processional Hymn No. 405 "God the Omnipotent!"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "Have mercy upon us, O God,
according to thy loving-kindness; according to the
multitude of thy tender mercies blot out our transgressions,
and our sin is ever before us. Purge us and we shall be
clean; wash us and we shall be whiter than snow. Create
in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit
within us. Cast us not away from thy presence, and take
not thy Holy Spirit from us. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Solo: "A Hill Called Mount Calvary" Gaither

Sung by Cyndie Sybert

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Moderato"

Rinck

Anthem: "Amazing Grace"

arr. Staton

Sung by Chancel Choir

Scripture: Isaiah 40:18-31

Sermon: "God's Quad: 4 - Height"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 470 "Saviour, Thy dying love"

*Benediction

*Choral Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"
Lutkin

*Postlude "Prelude in C Minor" Bach

----- *Congregation Standing-----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar today have been
placed by Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Shearer in
memory of Grandson - Baby Jon.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Allen Botacchi, Dan
Bosko, Robert Knauer, and Charles Penar.

Mr. & Mrs. Coyle Fowler will be Greeters at the
door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Sandy Sheppeck and
Marci Sheppeck.

Art Carney and Rod Rensel will be visiting the
hospital this week.

Tonight 6-7 - Jr. Youth Fellowship

7-9 - Youth Fellowship

Tonight 7 - Teachers Training

***Wednesday - 7:30 - Lenten Service

Wednesday - 6-7 - Youth Choir Practice

Wednesday - 6:30 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday - After Lenten Service - Council Meeting

Monday - April 2 - Women's Mary Prugh Circle Meeting
at 7:30 P.M.

Next Sunday - New Members and Confirmation Class will
be received. (Palm Sunday)

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. John Vensel who had a
new baby girl.

Congratulations to Erla Simmer and Mr. Walter
Hollefreund who were married yesterday.

The Library will be open before and after Church -
See Jane Andrews, Librarian.

April 13 - Youth Good Friday Breakfast here at our
Church. All youth - no admission charge.

Men's Good Friday Breakfast - see J. Walter Harmon
and Kenneth Weitzel for tickets.

If you want an Easter Lily - let Bea know or sign
up in the office now.

Women's Good Friday Breakfast - YWCA Auditorium -
Guest Speaker Rev. Steven Moore, Sr.; Music -

Sweet Salvation - 7:30 A.M. \$1.25 a person.

"God's Quad: 4 - Height"

Scrip: Isaiah 40:18-31; Text: Isaiah 40:28
 Explr fav thing teach child "How Big?" & arms o'hed
 Ges. r usual lik encompass whol univers:latter
 But this quest intrig man sinc creation=How Big G?
 This last dimens P giv 3rd chap vs 18 Eph & this #4
 G' Quad=(4) & direct think 2 cros agin;bredth,length
 depth,now height & smal vertic section abuv crosarm
 Pt 2ward hvn & Hos hi G luv is
 Isa pt out omnipotence=hav unlimit powr & this G
 but how explain is basic wat Isa striv 2prov this Sc
 vs 18=quests ask regard G peop ask 4centuries
 vss 19-20=Bcuz quests unanswerbl man fashion g's 2C
 vs 21=mr quests ask from Bgin
 vs 22=giv most basic ansers & anser=G creator
 Vss 23-24=pt out powr G
 vs 25=But why follow G? & anser vs 26
 (Illus famous man & quot,can U guess who sed?)
 No theol,evanglist=it J Edgar Hoover
 vs 28=Isa pt this out & our text 4 2day
 (Galileo & exam B4 Cardinals & "It movs just the same")
 He convinc G all powrful=Omnipotent
 vss 29-31=Isa conclud chap word comf weary hart serch
 (Illus VBS boy & G shears sheep)
 Need 2 kno & B remind agin & agin
 (Illus man overboard & rope has me)
 Mayb caut probs lif,but G control if let Him;all powr
 all know & Bcuz this tak car situ,circumstances
 Duz giv comf 2 know this? Can UB uplift by this?
 if cannot need re-exam lif & put propr perspectiv
 2 kno G's luv 4U
 Lar wk sed P cam 2kno L such way pt Depth G luv Rom
 11 3read,& nex 3 vss sum up Hgt G's luv(U lk up)
 Boil dwn 2 everthing cum from G
 (Illus Jos haydn 2 from hvn abuv cums all)
 This shud B our declar as well & if real wan 2defin &
 sho hgt G luv mus kno & remem G sent Js from hvn 2
 sufr & die,rise we hav lif & hav abundantly
 Not only hgt G luv,but sum up=Bredth,length,Depth &
 bound 2gethr thru Js Xp & wat did 4 U & me
 (Examp if all Bib desctoy wat vs cud remain wat wud?)
 Jn 3:16 & U substitute Ur name in blanks
 Btween U & G alone & if uncert & no anser affirm do
 sumthin about it & rt wher UR that action can tak pl
 If do so during prayr can kno dimens luv 4U & Bgin
 exp Joy Xpian lif as shud/if say Yes 2G let kno &
 I l p litertur 2help walk faith
 May ea B able 2 say= Vs 36 Romans 11

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 21, 1996

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS
 DINNER/MEETING TODAY AFTER CHURCH

TWILA BIRTHDAY JOHANN
 ALSO BARRIS/DALE
 NEXT WED LAIRD

MANUS FOR JEUS MAY 25
 IF WANT GIVE DONATION/OFFERING SEE TAMPALY

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN
 SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 40:18-31
 SERMON: "GOD'S QUAD: 4 - HEIGHT"
 ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/1/79

*HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 *OSTLUDE

EVIE

CARLYN - SURGEY - UNIFORM - DAIN
 MANY THANKS
 LYNN } THANKS
 FLEISCHER

2/
VS 18=QUESTIONS PEO BIN ASK OF G FOR COUNTLES CENTRYS

VSS 19-20=G NOT SEEN SO MAN MAKES ONE TO BE SEEN

VS 21=MOR QUESTIONS

VS 22=BASIC ANSRS - (EXPLAIN ANALOGY)
G IS TH/CREATOR

VSS 23-24=POWER OF GOD
BUT WHY SHUD MAN FOLLOW GOD????

VS 25=ISA ASKS THIS QUESTIN THIS VS

VS 26=ANSRS QUESTIN PARTIALY

(ILUS FAMOUS MAN WRIT BOUT THIS - CAN U GUES WHO IT WAS????)

IF U BLIEV RELIG LDR
FAMUS EVANGLIST
PRESIDENT
WRONG - IT J EDGAR HOOVER

ISA PTS OUT WAT I THINK OUR TEXT 4THIS MORN - VS 28
THIS IS TH/HEIGHT OF GOD

(ILUS GALILEO, "BUT IT STILL MOVES JUST TH/SAME")

HE CONVINCED G WAS ALL-POWERFUL, OR OMNIPOTENT

ISA CONCLUD THIS CHAP W/WORDS OF COMF 4EVERY WEARY SEARCH HART
WE NEED 2HEAR AGIN & AGIN

(ILUS MAN OVRBORD & "ROPE HAS ME")

MID PROBS/CONCERNS THIS LIF - G IS IN CONTROL IF LET HIM

HE ALMIGHTY - ALL-POWERFUL/ALL-KNOWING

DUZNT THIS GIV U A SENS OF COMFORT 2KNO THIS???

CANT U B UBLIFTD BY THIS THOT IN UR LIF?

IF CANT THEN NEED RE-EXAMIN UR LIF & PUT THING PROPR PRESPECTIV
SO U CAN KNO TH/HEIGHT OF G'S LUV 4U

LAF K PT OUT APOS P CAM 2PLAC WHER KNU "DEPTH" G'S LUV
HE NOT 11TH CHAP ROMANS VS 33 - (READ THIS VERSE)

NEX 3VSS SUMS UP WAT CUD CAL HEIGHT G'S LUV

ALL BOIL DWN EVRTH CUMS FR/GOD ALMIGHTY

(ILUS FRANZ JOS HAYIN & "FR/HVN ABUV CUMS ALL")

SHUD CUR DECLARATIN AS WEL

2DEFIN G'S HEIGHT OF LUV KNO & REMEM JS XP HIS MINSTRY

HX 4U/HE DY/HE ROS AGIN SO WE CUD HAV LIF & HAV MOR
ABUNDNTLY

THIS SUM IT UP - JS IS BREDTH/LNGTH/DEPTH/HEIGHT G'S
LUV 4U & ME

(ILUS MOTHER WHO GAV EARS 4HER SON -G GAV HIS ALL)

HYPOTHEITCL QUESTIN=IF ALL BIBL DESTROYD & ONLY ONE VS
REMAIN WAT SHUD THAT VS B??? JN 3:16

FOR G SO LUVD TH/WORL THAT HE GAV HIS ONLY BGOTTN SON,
THAT WHOSOEVR BLIEVTH IN HIM SHUD NOT FERISH BUT HAV
EVLASTING LIFE

SHUD CHNG-4G SO LUV THAT HE GAV HIS ONLY BGOTTN
SON THAT IF BLIEVS IN HIM, HE/SHE WIL HAV
EVLASTING LIFE

IF CAN REPEAT VS & PUT NAM IN BLANKS 4CERTNTY, THIS WAT
G WANTS 4U

IF UNCERTIN/NO ANSR AFIRM NEED DO SUMTH BOUT IT
U CAN DO RT WHER U R, OR IF DESIR MAY CUM 4WARD

INVITATIN=CAN KNO DIMENSINS G'S LUV-WAT IS BREDTH
LENGTH/DEPTH/HEIGHT OF IT

MAY EA US B ABL SAY W/PAUL - VERSE 36

SCRIP: ISAIAH 40:18-31; SERM: "G'S QUAD: 4 - HEIGHT"

ONE FIRST THING TEACH CHILDREN - "HOW BIG?" - "SO BIG"

EXAGGERATE - LAUGHTER

QUESTIN= HOW BIG IS GOD?

LA DIMENSIN AS 2ND EPH 3:18

CROSS

HORIZ CROSBREAM = BREADTH - WIDTH/WIDENESS

VERT UPRITE = LENGTH

SHORT LOWER PART VERT UPRITE = DEPTH

2DAY-SHORT UPPER VERT UPRITE = HEIGHT

PTS NOT ONLY HVNWARD, BUT HOW HIGH G'S LUV REALY IS

PROPH ISAIAH INSPIR BY G 2TEL OF HIS OMNIPOTENCE

WORD MEANS=HAVING UNLIMITED POWER

THIS IS GOD

HOW CAN HE B EXPLAINED????

THIS BASICLY WAT ISATH TRY TO PRUV THIS SCRIP
(TURN TO SCRIPTURE 40:18)

"God's Quad: 4 - Height"

Scripture: Isaiah 40:18-31

Text: Isaiah 40:28

One of the favorite things to teach small children has always ~~xxxxxx~~ involved how tall they are. Many of us probably asked our children many times, "How big are you?" And the child has responded, "So big," and demonstrated this by extending the arms overhead. But what has usually happened is that their gesture has made it look as though they were of tremendous size almost like encompassing the whole universe. This of course has always met with laughter from all involved. But basically this is a question that has intrigued mankind since the creation of the world, and that is "How Big is God?" This happens to be the last dimension which Paul gives us as found in the 3rd chapter and the 18th verse from his letter to the Ephesians. This is number 4 of the series we entitled "God's Quad," and the word Quad meaning four of course. We directed our thinking to the cross for these dimensions and spoke of the "Breadth" of God's love as the horizontal part of the cross, the crossarm. The "Length" of God's love was the vertical upright. And the "Length" of God's love was the lower section of the ~~xxxxxx~~ vertical section of the cross below the crossarm. The last one is the "Height of God's love and this is the small vertical section above the crossarm, and points us not only toward heaven but to How high God's love really is.

The prophet Isaiah was inspired by God to tell of the Omnipotence of Almighty God. In case you may have difficulty with that word "Ominipotence" it just means, according to Webster, "Having unlimited power." This is God, but how can He be explained? is basically what Isaiah is striving to prove in this particular Scripture.

In the 18th verse we read the questions he asks regarding God which people have been asking about Him for countless centuries. He then goes on to point out ~~xxx~~ that because these questions are quite unanswerable, men have turned to fashioning gods they can see and know, (verses 19 and 20). Then in verse 21 again he asks more questions which have been asked since the beginning, but he gives one of the most basic answers about God in the 22nd verse(read).

The answer of course is that God is the Creator. He then goes on in verses 23 and 24 to point out the power of God. But why should man follow God? Isaiah asks this question as well in the 25th verse and answers it partially in the 26th verse. A famous man writing about this once gave the following quote. I wonder if as you listen to this you ~~can~~ would be able to guess who that famous American man was.

(Illustration of J. Edgar Hoover and "Self Reliant, or God Reliant?)

Now if you believe that it was a great religious leader you are wrong. If you would guess that it was one of our leading evangelists you are wrong. It was the late and former director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover.

Isaiah points it out in what amounts to our text for this morning in the 28th verse, (read). Galileo in his time was one of the world's greatest leaders in scientific discovery and even though he had to testify before the cardinals about his ideas, he still would not go against the belief in an unchanging God.

(Illustration of Galileo and "but it still moves just the same")

He was convinced that God was "All powerful," or Omnipotent.

Isaiah concludes this chapter with the words of comfort every weary searching heart needs to hear again and again. (Read verses 29-31) What is he saying?

(Illustration of VBS and little boy answering God shears His sheep).

Indirectly he is saying that God keeps or looks after the needs of His sheep. We need to know this and be reminded of it again and again.

(Illustration of man overboard and "No, but the rope has me")

We may be caught up in the problems and concerns of this life, but in and through it all God is in control if we let Him. He is all powerful and all knowing and because of this He will take care of all circumstances and situations. Doesn't this give a measure of comfort to know this? Can't you be uplifted by the very thought of this in your life? If you can't then you need to -examine your life and put things in their proper perspective so you can know this Height of God's love for you.

Last week we said that the Apostle Paul came to know the Lord in such a way that

he pointed out the "Depth" of God's love in the 33rd verse of the 11th chapter of his letter to the Romans, (read again). He then goes on in the next 3 verses to sum up what we could call the "Height" of God's love. (Turn to this Scripture in your Bibles please and look at this).

All of this boils down to everything coming from God Almighty.

(Illustration of Franz Joseph Haydn and ~~him~~ "From heaven above comes all")

This should be our declaration as well. But if we really want to define it to show this "Height" of God's love we must know and remember that God sent from heaven His Son Jesus Christ to suffer and die and rise from the grave so that we might have life through Him and have it more abundantly. This is not only the "Height of God's love, but it sums up all of the other three dimensions as well. It is the "Breadth," the "Length," the "Depth," and the "Height," all bound together through Jesus Christ and what He did for you and me. ~~And it was~~

~~wanted to take one verse out of all the Bibles to show the dimensions~~

If all of the Bibles in the world were to be destroyed and only one verse were to remain what do you suppose that one verse should be? The only verse that sums up all of the dimensions of God and fulfills all is to be found in the 16th verse of the 3rd chapter of the Gospel of John. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." But what each of us needs to do is to remove a few words and make it read, "For God so loved _____, that He gave His only begotten Son, that if _____ believes in Him, he or she will have everlasting life. You must fill in the blanks and put your name in there. No one can do it for you or on your behalf. This is not a vote for someone else by proxy or long distance. It is between you and God alone.

If you can repeat that verse and place your name in those blanks and know it for certainty, this is what God wants for you. But if you are uncertain and cannot answer affirmatively then you need to do something about it, and right where you are this morning is where that action can take place. I would invite

you to take that step of faith as we come to the Lord in prayer. Then you can know the dimensions of that love He has for you and you can begin to experience the joy of the Christian life as you should. If you are saying ~~xxxxxx~~ yes to God for the first time I would be interested in knowing of it and would be willing to share this with you further with some booklets we have to help you as you begin your walk of faith.

May each of you be able to say with Paul, "For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things; to whom be glory forever. Amen."

"Shadow To Reality: Incense"
Scripture: Ex. 30:1-10; Text: Ex. 30:7-8

3rd (tic funr=Goldn Altr, or Altr Incens
plac rt outsid Veil Holy of Holies W end room H Plac
G giv Mos specif instructions agin:
vs 1=Acacia wood, strong durabl, tuff
vs 2=1 1/2 ft sq & 3ft hi tallest piece furniture
vs 3=cover Gold, & crown round edg incens no fall
vs 4= 2 gold rings & vs 5=2 poles cover gold & carry
vs 6=outsid H of H sweet aromat smel entr both chambr
vs 7,8=fix incens morn, eve burn continually
vs 9=certain mix=vss 34-38, all sweet spic symbl Js Xp
vs 10=blud on horns 'nce yr
diff Between Braz Altr, & Altr Incens
Braz burn animal on & Incens burn B4 Lord
" stud by gate & ther 4 sin offr, pr do & wah & then
entr Holy Place & in this C suffer Js Xp
Gav self sacrif & sin clens away & He cum B4 God
Suffer had 2 preced Glory & Js tel Emmaus Rd Lk 24:
Sacrif main work Js, & Glory final work 26
Braz Altr wood cover Brass & stud 4 sacrificial work
Incens wood cover Gold=humanty/Deity=Glory
Hiest pc furn Bcuz purpos reveal Glorified Xp & sho
final work intercess B4 G on our Bhalf
zsho all Blievr plac G has 4interces & import prayr
Final Priestly work Js Xp interced 4U & me
& we shud pray often and earnestly
Altr incens lesn may nevr herd B4
1st=Js work 2day=Heb 7:25=Abl zsav complet thoz
cum 2 G thru Him=Saved, Born Agaain & Js abl & wil
z interced Bhalf ea redeem person & only 4 Blievr
2r Jn 9:31=(blind man heal by Js & quest by Pharisee
means: G duz not hear un4givn sinners
EXPLAIN DIFF BETWEEN UN4GIVN & 4GIVN SINNERS
3rd=Jn 17:9=from lips Js self & explain wat mean
Sum may not want 2 hear this or accept Bcuz 2 hard
" " want zdo own thing & jus B ch membr & no ~~XXXX~~
~~XXXXXXX~~ commitment z Xp
G Altr, or Altr Incens stan as remindr ea it 4 Hi Pr
interced B4 G with sweet smell sacrif
& that Altr replac by our Hi Pr who stan B4 G inter-
ceding on our Bhalf, but only if kno as 1 who die 4
ea us personally
Whol pt Altr Incens=prayr absolutly unacceptbl until
trv cum by way bludy Altr Sacrif which represent
Js Js Xp: Prayr without faith absolut worthless
Must be faith & then prayer

ST. FUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Lenten Service April 4, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "Crusader's Hymn" Young
*Processional Hymn No. 288 "The Son of God goes forth
to War"

*Ascription
*Choral Call to Worship "Allelujah" Gaither
Evening Prayer
Announcements

Offering
Offertory "Offertory" Leybach
Solo Lloyd Link

Scripture: Exodus 30:1-11
Sermon: "Shadow To Reality: Perfume"

*Hymn of Dedication No. 283 "God is our Refuge and
our Strength"

*Benediction
*Choral Response: "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee" Dubois

*Postlude: "All Praise to Thee My God" Tallis
----- *Congregation StandiNg -----

Serving as Ushers tonight are: *Allen Botacchi,
Dan Bosko, Robert Knauer, Charles Penar.

Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be Greeters at the
door this evening.

Next Sunday new Members will be received into the
Church. Palm Sunday - Palms will be given out.

Next Wednesday will be preparatory Service. It is
necessary to prepare yourself for Communion.

Communion will be held Maunday Thursday and Good
Friday. There will be no communion on Easter.

It takes years to build a church. Seconds to need one.

Good Friday YOUTH BREAKFAST 8:00 / Eoan. 12-3
SURREY SERVICE EASTERN SUN. 6:00 A.M.

"Shadow To Reality: Perfume"

Scripture: Exodus 30:1-11

Text: Exodus 30:7-8

We now come to the third article of furniture found in the Holy Place. This is the altar of incense which is placed on the west ~~xx~~ end of the room just outside the Veil which set apart the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place.

Once again God gives Moses specific directions concerning the making of this altar. It was to be once again made of Acacia wood, the strong durable wood which grew under adverse desert conditions, (vs 1).

It was to be a foot and a half square and stand 2 feet high, vs 2. This meant that it was the tallest of the pieces of furniture. This gives it a specific importance when we realize the true significance of that altar.

It was to be covered with gold, and a crown of gold was to surround the outer edge. This meant that it had a rim which ~~prevented~~ prevented the incense from falling on the ground, vs 3.

There were to be two golden rings attached so it could be carried, vs 4, and two shafts of wood, or poles of Acacia wood covered with gold to do the carrying, vs 5.

It was to be placed before the Veil just outside of the Holy of Holies so that the sweet ~~smell~~ aromatic smell would also enter that chamber as well as the Holy Place, vs 6.

Aaron was to put fresh incense on it each morning when he dressed the lamps of the Candlestick, vs 7, and in the evening when he lit the lamps he was to put fresh incense on the altar, vs 8. It was to be burning incense continually, vs 8.

But God gave a prohibition to His requirements and that was there was only to be a certain kind and mixture of incense to be burned on this Altar, vs 9.

We read of these requirements in verses 34 to 38 of this same chapter, (read). All of these were sweet spices and they are symbolic of the perfection of Jesus Christ.

The first thing we need to remember is that there is a distinct difference between this Altar of Incense and the Brazen Altar. The Brazen Altar was to be used to offer sacrifices of animals upon. The Altar of Incense was to be used for the burning of Incense before the Lord. The Brazen Altar stood by the gate and was placed there for sacrifice. The sacrifice was made by the priest for the people for sin, then the priest went to the Laver and washed before he could enter the Holy Place. In this we can see the suffering of Jesus Christ. He had to give Himself as the sacrifice before God and He cleansed away the sin through this Sacrifice and then He came before God. In this we see that the suffering had to precede the Glory and Jesus Himself points this out to His disciples on the Emmaus road following His resurrection. In Luke 24:26, we read, (Read this). The sacrifice was the main work of Christ and His Glory is the final work. The Brazen Altar was made of wood covered with Brass. This stood for the sacrificial work to be done. The Altar of Incense was wood covered with Gold. This stood for both the humanity in the wood, and the Deity of Jesus Christ. In the 1st Altar the Sacrifice had to be made, in the 2nd Altar the Glory or Glorified is revealed.

We had said that this piece of furniture was the highest of all. This is significant when we realize that the purpose of this Altar was to reveal the glorified Christ and His final work is the intercession before God on our behalf. This should show all believers the place that God has for intercession. That means that we should realize the importance of prayer. The final priestly work of Jesus Christ is to intercede for you and me. But we ourselves should be praying often and earnestly.

But in this Altar of Incense is to be found a lesson which perhaps we may never have heard about or paid any attention to. ~~This is the work of~~ To understand this we must look at ~~it~~ it in progression. First, we need to understand the work of Jesus Christ today. In Hebrews 7:25 we read what that work is, (read). This means that He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, meaning of course being "Saved," or "Born again." When this occurs, Jesus is

not only able, but is willing to intercede before God on behalf of each redeemed person. This means that this intercession by Jesus Christ is only for believers. In the Gospel of John in the 9th chapter we read of Jesus healing a blind man. This man was questioned by the Pharisees about being healed and this is the statement he makes to them in the 31st verse, (read). This means that God does not hear ~~forgiveness~~ unforgiven sinners and there is a difference between forgiven and unforgiven sinners. A forgiven sinner is one who has accepted Christ and has been forgiven of his sins through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The unforgiven sinner is one who remains in their sin willingly and one who will not make the acceptance of Christ as personal Saviour. This is what the healed blind man is saying.

But Jesus Himself carries it one step further in ~~His~~ what we call His High Priestly prayer as found in the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John. In the 9th verse we read, (read this). Here is the proof from the lips of Jesus Himself. "Not for the world," for the world in general is unsaved. "But for them whom thou hast given me," are the ones who have accepted what God is offering through Jesus Christ. "For they are thine," meaning of course that they belong to God and to His kingdom.

Now there may be some who do not want to accept this for it is too hard to accept, especially if one wants to do his own thing and just be a church member without making that commitment to Christ.

The Golden Altar, or the Altar of Incense stands as a reminder to each of us that it was for the ~~High~~ priest to intercede before God with the sweet smelling sacrifice. And that Altar has been replaced by our very own High Priest who stands before God, interceding on our behalf, but only if we know Him as the one who died for each of us personally. This may cause some problems for some people. But the whole point of the Altar of Incense is that prayer is absolutely unacceptable until we have come by way of the bloody Altar of Sacrifice, which represents ~~Jesus Christ~~ the cross of Jesus Christ. Prayer without faith is absolutely worthless. It must be faith and then prayer.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Palm Sunday April 8, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefreund, Sandy Ferree - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Our Father Who Art in Heaven" Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 135 "All glory, laud, and honor"

*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Lord, whose way is perfect, help us, we pray thee, always to trust in thy goodness; that, walking with thee and following thee in all simplicity, we may possess quiet and contented minds, and may cast all our care upon thee, for thy carest for us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

*Kyrie (Congregation, Choir and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips.

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy

*Doxology No. 551 praise

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us Pray.

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Awake Thou Hivory Earth" Bach

The Rite of Confirmation: The Charge: The Vows:

*The Apostles Creed - Congregation and Confirmands

The Confirmation Prayer: The Confirmation

The Reception of Adult Members

Anthem: "Open the Gates of the Temple" Knapp

*Scripture: I King 1:41-48

*Amon: "The Royal Conveyer"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication 136 "Hosanna, loud hosanna"

*Benediction

*Choral Response "The Lord Bless You" Lutkin

*Postlude "All Glory, Laud and Honor" Morris

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Palms have been placed by the Alvin Tait Family in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. John J. Sweeney.

You may have them after the Service.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Mally Feder, John Snow,

Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Mr. & Mrs. Gottlob Kradel will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Barb Vargo and

Sherry McClimans.

We welcome the following Persons into our Church

Fellowship today.

By Confirmation: Gary Broun, Amy Burns, Tom Hollefreund,

Robin Knauer, Dodi Kradel, Robert Nagy,

Bob Sheppeck, Tracey Smiley, Sandy Snyder.

By Profession of Faith:

Robert Coleman William Wachsmuth

Marilyn Coleman Vivian Wachsmuth

Fanchon Hindman Alvin L. Swain

Joy Hindman

We wish to thank the Women's Fellowship for the

Corsages and Boutonnieres for the Confirmands.

Pictures will be taken of the Confirmation Class.

Please inform your Son or Daughter how many you want.

Tonight - Teacher's Training - 6:30 P.M.

Community Good Friday Service 12-3 o'clock. at St.

Andrews UP Church.

Easter Sunrise Service - 6:00 A.M. - Diamond Park.

Youth Good Friday Breakfast - 8:00 - here at St. Paul's

Men - YMCA - 6:00 - See Ken Weitzel or J.W. Harmon \$1.50

Ladies - YMCA - 7:30 A.M. - \$1.25 - Reservations

Wed. - 7:30 - Preparatory Service

Maundy Thurs - 7:30 - Holy Communion and after Service

there will be a reception for old and new members.

Good Friday - 7:30 - Holy Communion and Service.

No Communion on Easter Sunday.

A smile is a light in the window of your face that

shows that your heart is at home.

"The Royal Conveyer"
 Scripture: 1 Kings 1:41-48: Text: 1 Kings 1:44b,48
 In Scrip plot Dav nip in bud concern usurper 2 thron
 vs 3=giv clu how Dav sho Sol new king & this appear
 twice this chap & sho highest honor,
 no giv 2 any1 so can mulebak ride=K giv permis
 v 44b=Jonthon reconiz signif & report 2 Adonijah
 he say=U betr 4get Ur plans this real thing &
 Dav mean business
 & pictur Adonijah say=I Don't Bliev this
 even tho they no want acpt,knu Dav made choic & had
 2 abid by it or B at odds nu regime
 vs 48=aft all transpir Dav mov 2say this & he think
 bak 2tim 30yr ago & Nathan shar wat G giv messag
 concern kingdom 2 Sam 7:12-16 (read)
 This proph K Dav tuk B fulfil by Solomon then
 In mind eye cud prob C, Sol son,his son stretch end-
 less futur on thron Israel
 Dav fil sens prid,fulfil but litl did any1 dream G
 had sumthin grter & lrger in mind
 Jn 12:13-15 read this & the dif is 1 rode K's mule,
 whil othr ride people's conveyer
 Mule 4 King & sons,Donkey 4 common peop
 Yet humbl Donkey mor Royal Conveyer than Sol Mule
 & thus severl lessns 4 us
 FIRST:peop reacts as watch wat transpir B4 eyes
 Sum were happy,but othrs unwill 2acpt as shud
 (Illus grumbl,growl husband & scrambl wrong egg)
 Isn't typical sum peop 2day?
 Unles thing go ther way no go along,want way prevail
 In ordr 4Js 2B acpt as Messiah shud ride carriage &
 8 white horses
 ordr 4sum congrgations 2B wat shud B,ther shud B
 no demands made on any1 in that congreg
 Ever1 want 2do own thing
 (Humorous anser 2 this,cots,blankets,TV,put gr etc
 Then ever 1 happy Bcuz get thing ther way,
 But need kno underst lif no lik Burger King & can't
 alway hav our way & this go espec 4 Ch Js Xp
 G Himself dictat,estab wat Ch shud & mus B & it we
 who mus conform 2it & not expect G 2 conform 2us
 SECOND:Xpiantry not drag or bore
 (Illus woman spank smiling baby)
 This way sum want 2worship G & realty they bord Bcu
 jus fil obligation
 Ch membership requir mus appear & this neces ordr ch
 st iv,But thoz cum sens oblig shud striv catch JOY
 in liv Xpian lif:it no set rule regs,Xpiantry way of
 lif & it fills void 4thoz bog dwn probs this lif

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - MARCH 31, 1996

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS
 EASTER- NEXT SUNDAY - DAYLITE SAVING TIME - 1 HR AHED
 SUNRISE SERVICE 7:00 A.M.
 breakfast FOLLOW SERVICE
 EASTER SERVICE 9:30 AM-

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE FRIDAY APRIL 5, 7:30 PM - Lord's
 SUPPER

CONN. DINNER/MEETING APRIL 21
 HYMNALS ??? NEXT SUNDAY - GIVEN BY
 RILL/KATIE
 IN MEMORY OF ED & PECK FAINTMAN MORGAN
 PAPER FOR BREAKFAST

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN
 SCRIPTURE: 1 Kings 1:41-48
 SERMON: "THE ROYAL CONVEYOR"
 ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/8/79

*HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 POSTLUDE
 FLORENCE
 ANN - ELLEN
 UNKOWN - JEAN

It joy 2kno is U Xpian, No1, Nothing can keep U from G

Apos P ask quest Who shal separate from luv G
& then ask list of things cud do this
But say, "NAY IN ALL THEZ THINGS WE MOR THAN CON-
QUERORS THRU HIM THAT LUVU US

This wat that morn rid thru sts Jeru on Donkey all
about
That lowly Donkey was the Royal Conveyer and G ~~xxx~~
permit that 2hap 4U & Me.

JN 12/12-15

DIF TWEEN THIS ACT OF JS & TH/ACT OF SOL

ONE RODE ON TH/KING'S MULE,

OTHR WAS A KING RIDING ON TH/CONVEYER OF PEOPLE

MULE WAS WAT KINGS & KINGS SONS RODE ON

TH/DONKEY WAS WAT COMON PEOP RODE ON

AT HUMBL, LOWLY DONKY WAS MORE OF A ROYAL CONVEYER THAN
MULE SOL RODE ON WEN HE WAS MADE K OF ISRAEL

FR/THEZ TWO ~~LESSNS~~ EPISODES THER R SEVRL LESSNS WH/SHUD ABUND
NTLY CLEAR TO US

FIRST:: REACTINS OF TH/PEO IN EITHER INCIDENT

THER WER THOZ WHO WATCH WAT RANSPIR B4 THER EYES & THEY
WERE HAPPY ABOUT IT

& THER WER THOZ WHO WER UNHAPPY ABOUT IT

(ILUS GRUMBL, GROWL HUSBAND BCUZ WIFE SCRAMBL WRONG EGG)

ISNT THIS TYPICAL MANY PEO 2DAY?

UNLES HAV THINGS THER WAY U CANT GET ALONG W/THEM

(ILUS BURGR KING TRY TEACH CAN HAV IT UR WAY, & THAT WRONG)

THER THOZ WANT TH/CH 2B TH/WAY THEY WANT IT & WIL USE ECUSE NO
ATEND BCUZ IT NOT WAT IT SHUD

(EXAMPL HAV POINSETA, LILIES, COTS & SLEEPY, TV'S, PUTING GREENS,

PADED PEWS, ALL MUSIC, NO MUSIC, NO PREACH, NO OFFR, ET

IN ORDR 4 JS 2B TH/MESIAH HE SHUD HAV BIN RIDING IN MAGNIF CAR

DRAWN BY 8 BUTIFUL HORSES

WE NEED 2KNO THAT TH/CH MUSB WAT G WANTS IT 2B & NOT WAT WE W

WE NEED TO CONFORM TO G'S PATTN & NOT EXPEC G TO FIT OURS

SECOND LESSON:

WE NEED CONVY 2WORL XPIANTY IS NOT A DRAG OR A BORE

(ILUS OF SMILING BABY & WOMAN SMACK, MAK CRY - THATS BETTR)

THIS WAY SUM PEOP WANT ACT WEN WORSHIP G

LIK DRANK LEMON JUIC, NEVR SMIL, JUS FROWN

NEED 2CATCH TH/JOY THAT IS OURS THRU JS XP

WE 2KNO JUS WAT WE HAV IN XP

(ILUS AIRLINER LOSING 3ENGINESE "WE CUDB UP HERE ALL NIGHT")

JS IS NOT A FALS SENS OF SECURITY,

HE IS OUR SECURITY

OUR JOY IS TO KNO THAT IF WE BLONG TO GOD, NO ONE, OR ANYTH

THAT HAPPNS IN THIS LIF CAN SEPRAT US FR/TH/LUV OF G WHICH

IN XP JS OUR LORD

THIS IS WAT PALM SUNDAY IS ALL ABOUT

THAT RIDE THRU TH/STREETS OF JERU WAS PRUF THAT G CAM DWN TO

ERTH TO SHAR TH/COMON THINGS OF LIF W/US

THAT COMON DONKY CARRIED TH/K OF KINGS 2AN UNAPRECIATIV WOR

AT THAT TIME, & TO AN UNAPRECIATIV WORLD OF TODAY

THAT DONKY BCAM TH/ROYAL CONVEYER FOR U & ME

"BLESSED IS HE THAT COMETH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!"

SCRIP: 1 KINGS 1:41-48; SERM: "TH/ROYAL CONVEYER"

(ILUS MAN ON CRUIS, MEET WOMAN PLOT 2HAV 4 - 3RD HUSBAND)

SCRIP BOUT PLOT/PLAN OF ADONIJAH TO HAV SELF SUCEED FATHR DAVID
HE NEX IN LINE AFTR ABSALOM, BUT ABS DED & THOT HE SHUDB KING
ATHAN ARANG BATHSHEBA SPK DAV BOUT THIS
SHE ASK BOUT SOLOMON & DAV CONFIRM HE 2SUCEED ON THRON
SHE TALK & NATHAN USHERED IN

VSS 22-27=EXPLAIN

VSS 28-33=DAV MAKES PLANS INCLUD SOL RIDE K'S MULE
SPECIL HONOR NO GIV JUS ANYONE - MUS HAV KING PERMISIN
THIS PERMIS NO GIV JUS ANYONE 2GO MULBAK RIDING

VS 38=DAV'S ORDERS CARRYD OUT

VS 41=HERD NOISSOL B PROCLAIMD AS KING

VS 42=JON ARIW & WELCOM BY ADONIJAH

VSS 43-45=JON GIVS A FULL REPORT

XX CAN PICTUR ADONIJAH SAY= I DONT BLIEV THIS - IT NOT POSIBL

VSS 46-47=JONATHAN ADDS THIS NEWS AND THEN ADDS ----

VS 48=THIS REPORT OF WAT KING DAVID HAD SED

DAV MUS BIN RECAL WAT NATAHN SHAR BOUT 30YRS PRIOR 2THIS TIME
THAT PROPH RECORD 2 SAM 7:12-16

2 SAM 7:12-16

THIS PROPH K DAV MUS HAV TAKN AS BCUM FUFLL WEN SOL ASUM THRON
IN HIS MIND EYE CUD PROB PICTUR A SON OF SOL SUCEED HIM, THEN
A SON OF THAT SON, AND SO ON DWN THRU TH/YEARS
THUS WUD CONTINU A DYNASTY OF KINGS AS G HAD PROMISD STRETCH
OFF INTO TH/ENDLES FUTUR
DAV MAY BIN FIL W/EENS FULFILMENT & PRIDE AT THIS ACOMPL
BUT LITTL DID HE OR ANYONE ELS DREAM THAT G HAD SUMTH MUCH
LRGR & GRTR THAN THIS

JOHN 12:12-15

THIS PUTS ALL OF THIS IN A DIF PERSPECTIV

"The Royal Conveyer"

Scripture: 1 Kings 1:41-48

xts: 1 Kings 1:44b, 48

In our Scripture this morning there is a plot which took place which King David nipped in the bud and it concerned his successor to the throne. Without going into much detail about it let us just suffice it to say that David made the necessary provisions for Solomon to succeed him. The part of this incident which is pertinent to our thinking for this morning has to do with King David's actions in assuring everyone that Solomon was the rightful new king and successor.

We read of this in two different places in this chapter, and the first reference is found in the 33rd verse, (read this). We should understand that this was an honor which was not extended to just anyone. This was the highest honor David could give to his son or to anyone else within the kingdom. This was his mule and only the king was permitted to ride it unless the king gave permission for another to ride it. But this permission was not given for someone to ~~go~~ just go mule-back riding. It was only done on certain specific occasions. Jonathan recognizing the significance of this act reports it to the son striving to take over the throne, and we read this in the latter part of the 44th verse, (read this). He is actually saying to this pretender to the throne, "You better forget what you are doing for this is the real thing and David is showing he means business. And we can probably visualize Adonijah hearing this news and saying, "I don't believe this! It just isn't possible." But this is exactly what took place and even though all of the followers of Adonijah must have found it hard to accept, they knew that King David had made his choice and they had to abide by it or be at odds with the new regime. When all of this had transpired King David was moved to state, (read verse 48). The King must have been looking backward at this point to a time around 30 years prior to this time that Nathan had come to the King and had shared with him a message God had given to him concerning the kingdom. We read this in

2 Samuel chapter 7, verses 12 to 16, (read this). This was a prophecy that King David took ~~xxxx~~ as becoming fulfilled with Solomon taking his place. In his mind's eye he could probably picture a son of Solomon, then a son of that son and so on continuing the Kingly dynasty God had promised stretching off into the endless future.

David was filled with a sense of fulfillment and pride at this accomplishment, but little did he or anyone else dream that God had something much larger and greater in mind than this. In the Gospel of John the 12th chapter we read this in verses 13 to 15, (read this). Now the difference between this account of Jesus and Solomon is first of all that one rode on the King's mule, while the other was the King riding on the people's conveyer. The Mule was what King's and King's Sons rode upon. The Donkey was what common people rode upon. Yet, that humble, lowly Donkey was more of the Royal Conveyer, than the Mule Solomon rode when he was made king of Israel.

From these two episodes there are several lessons which should be abundantly clear to us. The first one concerns the reactions of the people in either incident. There were those who watched what was transpiring before their eyes and they were happy about all of it. But there were those who were unwilling to accept these things as being what they should be.

(Illustration of grumbling, growling husband and wife scrambling wrong egg) Isn't this typical of many people today? Unless things are done their way exactly they cannot go along with them. They want their way to prevail. In order for Jesus to be accepted as the Messiah He should have been riding in a magnificent carriage drawn by 8 white horses. In order for the particular congregation to be what it should be there should be no demands made on anyone within that congregation. Everyone should be free to do their own thing. Someone humorously has suggested the answer to this dilemma by wanting to provide cots, Lilies and Pointsettias, TV sets, putting greens padded pews and do on. Then everyone would be happy, because they would be getting it their way. But we need to know and understand that life is not like Burger King, we can't always have it our way and that goes for the church of Jesus Christ

especially. God Himself has dictated and determined what the church should and must be and it is we who must conform to it, and not ask God to conform to us. One other lesson we need to convey to the world is that Christianity is not a drag or a bore.

(Illustration of woman spanking smiling baby and making cry)

This is the way many people want to act when they worship God. But the reality of it is that many of them are just plain bored because they are fulfilling an obligation. The church membership rules require that they must appear. We need this in order to have the church operate as it should. But those same people who come only out of a sense of obligation need to strive to catch the joy that is involved in living the Christian life. It is not a set of rules or regulations that must be followed in order to pass the examination God is giving that particular day.

Christianity is a way of life that fills a void in the life of any and all who are bogged down with the problems of this life. It is a joy to know that you, if you are a Christian, nor belong to God and no matter what happens in this life, no one, ~~or~~ anything can keep you from God. The Apostle Paul asks the pointed question, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" And he goes on to tick off a list of things that possibly could do this. But then he says, "Nay, in all of these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us." This is what that morning ride through the streets of Jerusalem on a common Donkey is all about. That lowly Donkey was the Royal Conveyer, and God permitted that to happen for you and me.

"Shadow To Reality: Chest"
 Scripture: Exodus 25:10-16

Cum to only pc furn H of H, or Mos Holy Place
 Thi rect box made 2 G's specifications=storag Chest
 vs 10=Acacia wood & 3=3/4ft x 2 1/2 ftWide X 2 1/2 ft high
 Vs 11=covr insid out Gold & Gold crown=lip, rim
 V 12=4 rings 1ea cornr 4 aarry poles
 vs 13=2 poles 2B made & covr with Gold
 vss 14 & 15=Plac pol ring & no remov til finl destin
 vs 16=3 diff thing plac in Ark
 As lk thez diff 1nce agin C Shado wat latr Bcum
 Reality thru Jx Xp
 Ark Cov & Mercy Seat 1st articl G coman Mos 2make
 Tab made 2 keep Ark secrecy Mos H Place & protect
 from curious & prying eyes by inner veil
 Mos H Plac=perf cube, 15L, 15H, 15W & Ark in Midst
 Eve Js Resur appear Up Rm (JN 20:19 READ)
 Peace=He giv peac, & kno Blong Him bod, soul, spirit
 & this giv peace worl canno giv
 3 items giv clerer pictur Js also
 Gold pot= Manna & thez pt out Heb 9:4
 Wildnes Isites feed Manna, but only 1day supply
 els got wormy, spoil, but G miracl Manna/pot no spoil
 This Manna pt 2 Js sed=Bred life & thoz trust, Bliev
 nev'r hungr, thirst, all Bliev'r cum & B fil spirit food
 Aaron Rob Bud=1 pt priesthood peop quest authority
 G provid miracl Rod bud, blossom & G show Aaron man
 & 1nce agin Rod=authority Js Xp as Hi Priest 4mank
 third articl=Tabl Stone & this 2nd set Tables
 first wer brokn by Mos angr thro dwn disobed Isites
 " set stan 4 all mank 4 all sin & cum short glory
 " & no 1 riteous, no not 1
 " ank guilty B4 G & having brokn law
 Second set =Js Xp who no break any law & rep King
 the 1 lef hvn thron & cum erth liv without sin
 G sho standrd thru Tabl & thez standrd no B lowr
 Law then rep G's perf standrd govmnt, judgment &
 only Xp Himself able 2 fulfil standrd
 " thru Xp mank can B made rt B4 G & only thru Hi
 Nev'r by works law
 Thez articl in Chest covr by Mercy Seat & blud
 sprinkl provid wen G lk deman of law He able C them
 thru aton blud Js Xp 4 the world
 Mos H Plac provid 4 Hi Pr 2 cum B4 G Alone
 Came alone & face G all by self & this wat Js Xp
 provid ea sinnr in worl
 (Ius Examin B4 eat L's Supper)
 This wat all mus do: no 1 cum & partak sacrificial meal
 4 us: it thru self-exam & then partak in repentce we
 find comf & joy 4givnes thru Js Xp; & may all feel, kno

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Butler, Pennsylvania
 Preparatory Service April 11, 1979
 The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
 Mrs. Kay Morris - Organist and Choir Director
 Diane Zavacky - Acolyte

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 7:30 P.M.
 Prelude: "When on the Cross" Bach
 *Processional Hymn 164 "In the cross of Christ I glory"
 *Ascription -
 Call to Worship "Man of Sorrows" Bliss
 Evening Prayer
 Who's Who in the Pew
 Announcements
 Offering
 Offertory "Jesus Paid It All" Morris
 *Exhortation of Confession - Page 18
 *Confession of Sin - Page 19
 *Assurance of Pardon
 Anthem "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" O'Hara
 Scripture: Exodus 25:10-16
 Sermon: "Shadow to Reality: Chest"
 Prayer
 *Hymn No. 51 "Abide with me"
 Benediction
 Choral Response "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee" Dubois
 Postlude "When I Survey" Burjis
 *Congregation Standing
 Those serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder,
 John Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel
 Hospitalized: Mrs. Eleanor McWilliams

We need a few men to help put up 6 tables and 75
 chairs in the New Building for the Reception tomorrow
 evening for old and new members of the church.

Nursery will be provided on Maunday Thursday.

Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will greet the Congrega-
 tion at the door this evening.
 Interested in Volleyball and Basketball and a lot of
 good Fellowship. Sign up in the Narthex so it can
 be organized. You can also contact Virginia Mangel.

"Shadow To Reality: Chest"

Scripture: Exodus 25:10-16

We now come to the only piece of furniture to be found in the Holy of Holies, or what was also called, "The Most Holy Place." This piece of furniture was nothing more than a rectangular box made according to God's specifications. These are the directions which God gives to Moses for this box, or in reality it is a chest, because it was used for storage:

In verse 10 of chapter 25 Moses is told to make this ~~box~~^{chest} of Acacia wood, and it is to be 3 and 3/4 feet long, 2 1/4 feet wide, and 2 1/4 feet high.

Verse 11, the chest was to be covered with pure gold both inside and outside and was to have a golden crown around it. This meant that it had a lip, or an edge around it much like the lip or edge of the Table of Shewbread, or the ~~Table~~ Altar of Incense.

Verse 12, there were to be four rings of gold placed one at each corner, so the poles could be placed through the rings and it could be carried.

Verse 13, Two staves or poles of Acacia wood ~~xxx~~ were to be made and they were to be covered with gold.

Verses 14 and 15, the poles were to be placed into the rings of the Ark, or Chest and were not to be removed from those rings. This made it always ready to be moved if God gave the command to do so. These poles were to remain in the rings until the Ark finally reached its final destination and only then were they to be removed.

verse 16, God gave directions that there were 3 different things to be placed in the Ark.

Now as we look at all of this we can once again see the Shadow of what was to later become a Reality through Jesus Christ.

The Ark of the Covenant as it was called ~~xxx~~ with its Mercy Seat, was the first ticle God commanded Moses to make. The Tabernacle was made so that the Ark of the Covenant could be placed in the secrecy of the Most Holy Place, and was therefore protected from ~~xxx~~ all curious and prying eyes by the inner veil.

The Most Holy Place or the Holy of Holies was a perfect cube. It was 15 feet high, 15 feet wide, and 15 feet long. The Ark of the Covenant stood in the very midst of this room. This can be compared to Jesus Himself who on the evening of His Resurrection appeared in the Upper Room among His disciples, and we read, John 20:19 (read) "He stood in the midst." This Ark was where the High Priest once a year ministered before God on behalf of the people, making atonement for their sins. And Jesus became our High Priest and stands in the midst of the Holy of Holies, God's heaven and ministers today on our behalf. When Jesus appeared in that Upper Room on that first Easter evening, He said, "Peace be unto you." This was not only a word of comfort to them, but has become the words of comfort to any and all who place their trust in Him. It is only through Him that we can have any semblance of peace in this world. Knowing that we belong to Him in body, soul, and spirit, can bring a peace and comfort which the world cannot understand and know.

The three items placed inside the Chest give us a much clearer picture of Jesus Christ also. First there was the golden pot which contained Manna. The author of Hebrews points these things out in the 9th chapter the 4th verse, and God gave these commands in the books of Exodus and Numbers.

In the wilderness when the Israelites were feeding on this Manna, they could only gather as much as was needed for that particular day. Otherwise it would spoil and get wormy. But in some miraculous fashion God provided some Manna which was placed in this golden pot and it never spoiled or deteriorated. This Manna was also pointing to Jesus who said He was the bread of life and those who trusted and believed in Him would never hunger or thirst. All believers can come to Him and be filled with the Spiritual food for life.

The second thing in this Chest was Aaron's Rod that Budded. At one point in Aaron's priesthood there was unbelief that He was God's priest. So God miraculously caused Aaron's Rod to bud and flower. This was God's way of saying that Aaron was His man and had God's blessing in what he did. Once again this Rod stands for the authority of Jesus Christ as God's High Priest for mankind.

The third item in the Chest was the Tables of the Law. This was the second set of Tables because if you will recall, in anger Moses threw the first set to the ground and broke them because of the disobedience of the Israelites. The first set symbolically stands for all of mankind for we know that "all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God." And also, "There is none righteous, no, not one." Mankind then is guilty before God in having broken the law. But the second set of Tables stands for Jesus Christ because He did not break even one of God's laws. These two Tables represent Him as the King, the one who left His heavenly throne to come to earth and to live among us without sin. But God was also showing in these Tables that these were His standards and man was not to lower His standards in any way. So it is that the Law then represents God's perfect standard of government and judgement and only Christ Himself is able to fulfil this standard. And it is through Christ that mankind can be made right before God, and only through Him. Never by the works of the Law. The other thing we should point out about the Tables of stone is that these and the other articles in the Chest were covered by the Mercy Seat which we will speak on Tomorrow night. But the Blood sprinkled Mercy Seat provided that when God looked upon the demands of the law, He was able to see them through the Atoning Blood. And that atoning Blood is the blood of Jesus Christ for the world.

That Most Holy Place, or the Holy of Holies provided for the High Priest to come before God. He came alone, and he faced God all by himself. This is what Jesus Christ has provided for each individual sinner in the world.

(Illustration of Examination before eating Lord's Supper)

This is what all of us must do. No one can come and partake of this sacrificial meal for us. It is through this self-examination, and then the partaking of this meal in repentance that we find the comfort and joy of forgiveness through Jesus Christ. May each of us always know and feel that forgiveness through the Reality of Jesus Christ in our hearts and lives.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Maunday Thursday April 12, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Dir.
Helen Hilliard and Beth Feder - Acolytes

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "Savior Thy Dying Love: Morris
*Processional Hymn 221 "My faith looks up to Thee"
*Call to Worship "Man of Sorrows" Bliss
Evening Prayer
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Offering
Offertory "Jesus Keep Me Near" Morris
Anthem "Ave Verum" Mozart -
Sung by Chancel Choir
Scripture: Exodus 25:17-22
Sermon: "Shadow To Reality: Cover"
Communion Hymn No. 338 "According to Thy gracious word"
*Communion Service Page 32
*Exhortation - Confession - Assurance of Pardon
*Eucharistic Prayer
*Seraphic Hymn
*The Institution
*Agnus Dei
Holy Communion
*Prayer of Thanksgiving - Doxology
*Hymn of Dedication 158 "When I survey the wondrous
*Benediction cross"
*Choral Response "Christ, we do all Adore Thee"
*Postlude "Ave Verum" Mozart
*Congregation Standing - - -
The Elders and Deacons will serve Communion and
will also serve as Ushers.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 7:30 P.M. - Holy Communion

You are invited to the Undercroft for
Fellowship Hour with our New Members our Honor
Guests. The Congregation is invited and all

those worshipping with us this evening.

The Reception this evening is sponsored by the Women's
Fellowship. The women of the Hospitality Committee.
will serve as hosts.

We invite all Christians, regardless of denomination
to partake of the Lord's supper with us. Please
fill out a Communion card so that our Church's
records will be accurate. If visitors desire to
receive credit at their home church, put the names
and address of either your Pastor or your Church on
the back of the card and it will be forwarded.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, Easter brings to mind
the tenderest and most meaningful associations of
the year. It is a time for quiet reflection. Let
us think of our dear ones who have gone on but who
have not left us, whom we will meet again. And let
us think of Jesus, who tells us about the immortality
of life. We thank Thee for all the thoughts which
Easter evokes. How grateful we are for the faith
taught us by Jesus Christ our Lord, that because
He Lives, we shall live also, and that someday,
somewhere, somehow, we shall meet our loved ones
again and know them and love them and never be
separated from them anymore. This is the faith of
Easter Day, bind it closely and securely to our hearts
and thereby bring us comfort and peace and joy in the
knowledge that life triumphs over death. Through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those serving Communion this evening are:
Mike Nazaruk, Bea Tait, Mary Lou Davis, Art Carney,
and Rod Rensel.

Nursery will be provided this evening by Cheryl
Altamus.

Deacon and Mrs. Rod Rensel will greet the Congrega-
tion at the door this evening.

"Shadow to Reality: Cover"

Scripture: Exodus 25:17-22

Las nite spok Ark Cov & wat was insid & 2nite lk wat
amd t 2 Cover 4 the Ark

vs 17=2B made pur G & same width/length ark self
3-3/4 long & 2 1/4 wide

vs 18=G ad sumthin signif tel Mos hav 2cherebim G &
vss 18-20=complet directs

angels & Merc Seat 2B 1pc gold=no 3 all 1 pc

Think buty this hand hammer work

This sho no pes, parts 2 G luv, it complet, whole
vs 21=G direc Merc Seat or Covr plac on Ark & Manna,
Rod bud, & 2 Tabl Ston insid

Vs 22=G prom 2 spk abuv Merc Seat & tween 2angels
This known SHEKINAH, & tho Heb word not in Bib, it
use 2 describ PRESENC OF G

It thru outstretch wing angel Hi Pr feel & kno
PRESENC G in Mos Holy Plac

Merc Seat was Covr, & wat did covr?

Covr G's perf law writn Tabl ston insid

G perf law sed if no kep complet ment deth 2individ

But no man can perf keep law & G provis 4this was
Day Atonemen & ^Hpr tak blud ~~s~~ⁱⁿ animl offr 4sin
of peop & sprinkl on Merc Seat

& so peop sin covr 4 nothr year

Merc Saet covr sin man from site G & rep G Thron mid
sinful peop & it is perf pictur Js Xp

Heb 9:5=Merc Seat & Gr word here same Rom 3:25

(READ Rom 3:23=25) Merc Seat=PROPTIATION & it mean
th^o which appeases

Need underst act not 2placate vengeful G, insted satis
righteousness of Holy G & this mak posib 2sho mercy

Propitiation or apeasment was covr sin by Js Xp

But as so oft case, issu cloud by everthing else
(Illus Chicago Temple & Cross on top)

How many peop U suppos lk cross dif ocasions & nevr
prompt 2 think ful signif or meaning?

But chang ordnary pictur & bring nu mean/insite
in2 common thing

This how mus lk Tab & all furnish

2Isite lk wat G sho or giv 2them

4us it giv Realty ea pc rep Js Xp & espec shud we C

Js Xp in Merc Seat

He took our sin upon self/He covr our wayward, sinfu
lifs by giv His lif our Bhalf

This mesag of Salvation=our sins covred 4ever by Js
Xp as our personal Mercy Seat

May we echo words K David as mov 2 pen them=

Blessed is the man whose transgression is ~~covered~~

4given, whose sin is covered.

"Shadow To Reality: Cover"

Scripture: Exodus 25:17-22

Last night we spoke of the Ark of the Covenant, its dimensions, and what was kept inside. Tonight we look at what amounts to the Cover for the Ark. We read of the directions for this Cover in the 25th chapter of Exodus beginning at the 17th verse.

Verse 17, it was to be made of pure Gold the same length and width as the Ark itself.

Verse 18, but then God adds something significant here when He tells Moses to have made two cherebim beaten from gold, and the complete directions are covered from the 18th through the 20th verses. These two angels were to be made along with the Mercy Seat itself, of one piece of gold, beaten and formed as God directed. It was not a piece of gold for the Mercy Seat, and a piece of ~~xx~~ gold for each of the angels and then the three things were fastened together. No, this was all one piece. When we consider what God directed them to make and then realize that these things were made exactly as He directed, I think we can be easily overwhelmed by the beauty and magnificence of this undertaking. A part of the purpose of this was that there were no parts to the love of God. It was complete and whole and didn't come in pieces.

Verse 21, God directs that the Mercy Seat, or the Cover was to be placed upon the Ark and inside of the Ark was to be the Manna, the Rod that budded, and the two Tables of Stone.

Verse 22, and now God promises to meet with them and to speak to them above the Mercy Seat and between the two angels. This was known as the Shekinah Glory of God. This Hebrew word is not found in the Bible but it is used in describing the "Presence of God," which it really means. It was through the outstretched wings of the angels that the High Priest was able to feel and know the presence of God in the Most Holy Place.

The Mercy Seat was a "cover." What did it cover? It covered God's perfect law written on the two tables of stone inside the Ark. God's perfect law said that if the law was not kept completely it meant death to the individual. But

no man can perfectly keep the law and so God's provision for this was the Day of Atonement on which the High Priest would take the blood ~~off~~ of the ~~xx~~ animal offered for the sins of the people and he would sprinkle this blood on the Mercy Seat, and so the sins of the people were covered for another year.

The Mercy Seat covered the sins of mankind from the sight of God but it also represented God's Throne in the midst of a sinful people. It is in the Mercy Seat that we have a perfect picture of Jesus Christ. In the 9th chapter of Hebrews the 5th verse the author speaks of the Mercy Seat. But the word used here is the same Greek word which is found in Paul's letter to the Romans in the 3rd chapter the 25th verse. Paul begins this thought in the 2nd verse and so we must start there. (Read 22-25). Now the Greek word we are talking about which is translated Mercy Seat in Hebrews, is Propitiation here by Paul. It means, "The gift that propitiates," or that which appeases. Now what is appeased? ~~The wrath of God~~ We need to understand that this act was not to placate a vengeful God, but instead is satisfying the righteousness of a Holy God, and this in turn makes it possible for Him to show His mercy. The propitiation or appeasement was the covering of sin by Jesus Christ for mankind.

But as is so often the case the real issue is clouded over by so many other details and circumstances which are dragged into the picture.

(Illustration of Cross on top of Chicago Temple)

How many people do you suppose looked at that cross on different occasions and it never prompted them to think of its full significance or meaning? But just let someone change the ordinary picture, and it brings new meaning and insight into an altogether common thing. This is how we need to look at the Tabernacle and all of its furnishings. To the Israelite it meant a showing or giving of what God had for them. But for us we can look at each piece and know that God gave us the Reality of these things through Jesus Christ. For us the important thing is that we can see Jesus Christ revealed as that Mercy Seat. He took our sin upon Himself. He covered our wayward sinful lives by the giving of His life on our behalf. ~~We need to know this~~

~~David~~ This is the message of Salvation, that our sins are covered forever, by Jesus Christ our own personal Mercy Seat. May we ~~like David~~ echo the words of King David as he was moved to pen them in the 32nd Psalm, "Blessed is the man whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Good Friday April 13, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Dir.
Sharon Pfabe and Karen Pfabe - Acolytes

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION - 7:30 P.M.

Prelude "It is Finished" Aus Der Tiefe
*Processional Hymn 278 "O Love that wilt not let
*Ascription me go"
*Call to Worship "Man of Sorrows" Bliss
Evening Prayer
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Offering
Offertory "There is a Green Hill Far Away"
Anthem "Go to Dark Gethsamane" Noble -
Chancel Choir
Scripture: Exodus 26:31-37
Sermon "Shadow To Reality: Screen"
Communion Hymn No. 341 "Here, O my Lord"
*Communion Service Page 32
*Exhortation - Confession - Assurance of Pardon
*Eucharistic Prayer
*Seraphic Hymn
*The Institution
*Agnus Dei
Holy Communion
*Prayer of Thanksgiving - Doxology
*Hymn of Dedication No. 161 "Beneath the cross
of Jesus"
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen

The Congregation will leave in silence in
observance of the Crucifixion.

----- *Congregation Standing -----
Those serving Communion tonight are: Harry Fry
Chuck Penar, Leroy Andrews, Bill Ohl and
Don Kingsley.

Deacon and Mrs. LeRoy Andrews will greet the Congregation at the door this evening.

We invite all Christians, regardless of denomination to partake of the Lord's supper with us. Please fill out a Communion card so that our Church's records will be accurate.

If Visitors desire to receive credit at their home Church, put the name and address of either your Pastor, or your Church on the back of the card and it will be forwarded.

One wonders why a day that memorializes torture, pain and death should be called Good Friday. The answer, of course, is that the Greatest values of life do not come out of the fortuitous and the easy, but out of the hard and the difficult. Christianity is no sweetly textured faith by which its adherents are carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease. It is a rigorous faith, the essence of which is found through self-denial and sacrifice.

And those who meet its challenges will find that Good Friday is good indeed, because behind this inscrutable universe, filled as it is with hardship and suffering, there is a good God, One who cares, One who loves everyone of us. The basis of the great message of Good Friday is this: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

This is perhaps one of the few greatest truths in the whole world. Despite all of the suffering, struggle, disappointment and sorrow in life, there is a God who cares, who understands. He esteems us so highly that He gives us freedom, and in this freedom we often hurt ourselves. But then He picks us up and lovingly supports us in our pain and struggle.

"Shadow To Reality: Screen"
 Scrip: Ex. 26:31-37
 Now cum 2 final artic in Tab: 4 thoz bin here 4 all, I
 tru bin bles 2U & enlarg underst G's shados & Really
 Final artic Veil or Screen
 Vs 31=Colors=Blue,Hvn;Purple=Blu/Scar=Hvn lef,Blud
 2 & get King;Scarlet Sacrif;Fine Twin Lin=White
 Also includ cherebim woven into it=messengers G
 vs 32=4 pilrs Acacia=Locus wood,tuf,durabl=Human Js
 Gold covr=Deity Js
 Hooks gold,sockets silver
 Vss 36-37=outr curtain H Plac & diff Btween 2
 outr all priests;Inner only Hi Priest
 Compar curtains=outr not ornate;Inner thick,strong
 Tol 2team ox pul opp no tear rip
 This same Veil in T^{emp} & hang 15 centuries & separate
 Atone work G from peop
 Purp 2keep curois eyes off & mak common,ordinary
 Sprinkl Blud Mer Seat 2B speacial
 But peop keep turn from G & final G cam 2erth pers
 Js Xp & Bcam Hi Pr at appt tim gav lif 4mankind
 Mt 27:50-51a=Signif,hvy curtin rip 2 by G
 How torn? Not from botm 2 top as usual,
 Top 2 Bottom,G's way, not mans
 Very oft think all this othr peop & not me & no invol
 me too much.
 (Illus dream,soldier whip Js & turn round & it dreamr
 If U & I wud think Bcuz our sin,Bcum nexessary 4
 Js 2die cud underst Shados G brot 2 Reality thru Xo
 In all this G say, "I Luv U" & "I Did This 4U"
 May Screens or Veils which seperate U & I from G
 B remov by Reality us cum 2 Js Xp 4 His clensing
 & n.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. GOOD FRIDAY 7:30 P.M.
 APRIL 5, 1996

PRELUDE
 ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 7:00 A.M.
 BREAKFAST - SIGNUP????
 EASTER WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN
 SCRIPTURE: RESPONSIVE READING #378 - IN HYMNAL
 SERMON: "IT IS FINISHED" - UPDATE OF MESSAGE FROM
 ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 4/15/99

 THE LORD'S SUPPER
 PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
 *HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 *POSTLUDE

FLORENCE COOPER
 ETHEL

EX 26:31-37

THIS FINAL DIRECTIN 4MAK OF TAB & FURNISHINGS

VS 31=COLORS & EACH COLOR CAN HAV A SIGNIF 2 JS
BLUE=HVN, & CUM FR/HVN BY JS 2MINSTR 2MANKIND
SCARLET/RED=HIS SHED OF BLUD 4MANKIND
PURPLE=MIX BLUE/SCARLET=PURPL & SIG WAT HE IS - K OF KINGS
HIS ROYALTY

FINE TWINED LINEN=WHITE - PURITY OF JS AS OPOS DIRT/FILTH
OF WORLD

BUTIFUL COLORS STU OUT IN BRILIANT
CHERUBIMS=2B WOVEN THRUOUT TH/MATERIAL AS WELL -MESSENGRS OF G

VS 32= SHITTIM WOOD - TUF DESERT WUD LIK OUR LOCUST
COVR W/GOLD=WUD COMON,HUMANTY JS,COVR W/GOLD - GOD IN FLESH
HOOKS=GOLD, PILLARS SET IN SILVR SOCKETS

VSS 33-35 TEL OF ARANG FURNITUR IN HOLY PLACE & MOST HOLY PLACE
CURTAIN/VEIL 2SEPRAT H PLAC, & HOLY OF HOLIES

VSS 36-37 TEL OF MAK CURTIN/VEIL 4ENTRANC OF H PLACE
THER NO COMPARISON TWEEN 2CURTINS/VEILS

VEIL B4 MOS H PLACE WAS 60 FT LONG & 15 OR 30 FT WIDE ACORD 2
SCHOLAR GIV DIMENSINS

WAS AS THIK AS PALM OF MAN'S HAND
15CENTURYS VEIL HUNG IN PLACE & SEP ISITES FR/ATONE WORK OF G
TAK PLACE TWEEN G & BLUD SPRINKL ON MERCY SEAT

BUT PEO TURN FR/G & 2 FORGIV THEM CAM 2ERTH IN PERSN JS XP
HE MNISTR TO THEM & SUMTH SIGNIF HAPN WEN HE CRUCYFIED

WEN HE DIED MARK TELLS US15:38

TH/VEIL WAS NOW SPLIT IN TWO

NOT BY HUMAN HANDS, BUT BY TH/HAND OF GOD
SIGNIF FR/TOP TO BOTTOM - FR/GOD DOWN TO MAN
SIGNIF-WAY NOW OPEN TWEEN GOD & MAN

NO LONGR NECESARY FOR PRIEST TO REPRESENT MAN
ANYONE CAN NOW CUM DIRECTLY TO GOD ON HIS/HER OWN
3 END OF FIRST PART OF PARADOX

SCRIPTURES: MARK 15:33-39; JOHN 19:28-30

PARADOX=A STATEMENT THAT IS SELF-CONTRADICTORY
TWO WORDS:

RENT=TORN,RIPPED NOT COMPLETE - MK 1538
FINISH=END,COMPLETE,WHOLE,ENTIRE - JN 19:30

SUMMIT - NOT A PARADOX BUT 2EXAMPS TELL SAME THING

LET'S LK AT HOW TH/VEIL CAM IN2BEING
FND IN EXODUS, CHAPTR 26, VSS 31-37.

SECOND PART PARADOX

JOHN 19:30

"IT IS FINISHED" SEEMS LIK JS SAY TH/JOB IS DUN

NOT SO!

WEN JS SED=IT IS FINISHED GRK WORD FINISH = T-T-E-L-E-S-T-A-I
ITS A COMMERCIAL WORD

EXAMPL=FIND CLAY TABLETS MARKED WORD - TETELESTAI
RECEIPTS FOR TAXES,OTHER BILLS

IT MENT=PAID IN FULL

BIBLE TELLS US = TH/WAGES OF SIN ARE DETH

JS PAID THE PRICE

WEN HE DIED ON TH/CROSS HE CUD SAY=TETELESTAI, IT IS FINISHED,
TH/PRICE FOR SIN HAS BIN PAID ONCE & FOR ALL

SO TH/TEARING OF TH/VEIL & TH/LAST WORD OF JS WEN HE DIED ARE
NOT A PARADOX

BOTH OF THEM COMPLETE TH/PICTUR OF G'S PLAN OF SALVATIN

BUT TOO OFTEN ALL OF THIS IS LOOKED UPON AS A VERY NICE THING
WHICH GOD DID FOR EACH OF US, BUT IT DUZN'T INVOLV US 2MUCH

('S OF MAN DREAM C SOLDIER WHIP JS, TURNS AROUND & IT IS SELF)

WE NEED TO U OURSELVS IN THIS PICTUR

IT IS U & I WHO PUT JS ON THAT CROSS

WE R NOT REMOVED FR/THAT

GOD DID THIS FOR EA OF US INDIVIDUALLY

HE SAY TO US, I LUV U, I DID THIS FOR U

MAY WE C TH/RENDING OF TH/VEIL IN TH/TEMPL, & TH/LAST WORD OF
JS AT HIS DETH COMPLET 4US TH/RELATSHIP WE CAN HAV W/GOD

MAY WE EVER KNO THAT HE DYD 4ME,SO THAT I CAN LIV

"Shadow To Reality: Screen"

Scripture: Exodus 26:31-37

Now come to the final article which God commanded Moses to have made for the Tabernacle. For those of you who have been with us throughout this whole series in this ~~Lenten~~ Lenten season, I trust these messages have been a blessing to you and that they may have enlarged your understanding of what God brought forth as Shadows in the distant past and which became realities in the life of Jesus Christ.

The final article which God gave directions for was the "Veil," or the "Screen." As we look once again at the specific directions we see that this particular piece of material was to be woven using different colors.

Verse 31, it was to be of Blue, and purple, and Scarlet. The Blue color stands for the heavens and the heavenly nature of the one it represents. The Purple color is made by mixing Blue and Scarlet together. ~~The Purple or completed color made by the mixture stands for Royalty, and this is what Jesus Christ represents to the world as revealed by God. The Scarlet, or Red color used along with the Blue to make purple stands for blood or sacrifice. And it took both the Heavenly~~

The Blue stands for the heaven, and also signifies the coming from heaven of Jesus Christ to earth to minister among mankind. The Scarlet or Red stands for the shedding of blood; His blood on behalf of mankind. Mix the Blue and Scarlet together and you not only get Purple, but you arrive at what He really is and that is King of Kings. The Purple stands for His royalty. Then Red was to be the other color which stood by itself in that material and again it signifies His sacrifice, and the shedding of His blood on Calvary's Cross.

But also there was to be the "Fine Twined Linen," and this linen was White. The White stands for the purity of Jesus Christ as opposed to the dirt and filth of the world. When the Israelites saw this Veil and its magnificent colors, the colors stood out in a brilliance beyond compare. ~~But they were also~~ But they were also to include something else within this woven Veil and that is Cherubim were to be woven throughout that material as well. These reminded them of the messen-

gers of God. This Veil was to be hung on 4 pillars made of Acacia wood, which said was the tough durable desert wood comparable to our locust wood which grew under very adverse conditions in the desert. The wood was to be covered with Gold and again the tough strong wood signified the humanity of Christ, and the Gold stood for His deity as God. The hooks upon which the Veil hung were to be of gold and the pillars were to be set in sockets of silver, vs 32. Then in verses 33 through 35 they are told to arrange the furniture in the Most Holy Place, or the Holy of Holies, and in the Holy Place which was the outer chamber of the Tabernacle.

Then in verses 36 and 37 they are instructed to make another curtain and to hang it on five pillars and this was to be the entrance to the Holy Place ^{at} which separated the priests from the Holy of Holies or the Most Holy Place. We need to know that there were two chambers involved here. Into the one any priest could go, and that was the outer, or Holy Place. Into the Inner chamber the Most Holy Place, or often called the Holy Of Holies, only the High Priest could go and that was once a year on the Day of Atonement.

When we compare the two curtains as found in this Scripture, we can see there is a vast difference between them. The outer curtain was nothing in comparison to the Inner curtain. The outer curtain was much like the Gate at the entrance to the courtyard, and was just Blue, Purple, Red and White material woven together. But the Inner curtain, or Screen, or Veil was of heavier material and was woven with cherubim interspersed throughout. There are some Jewish historians who tell us that this curtain was so strong and durable that two teams of oxen pulling at opposite ends of this curtain, and going in opposite directions could not tear it. Whether this is true or not we can't say. But it must have been magnificent to see that beautiful woven fabric rising 15 feet in the air, in the middle of the desert.

This is the same Veil which was brought to the Temple and hung there to separate the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies in the Temple as well. For 15 centuries that curtain hung in place for the Israelites separating them from

the atoning work of God taking place between the High Priest and God with the blood being sprinkled on the Mercy Seat. Its purpose was to keep the curious eyes of the people from seeing the Ark and the Mercy Seat and from making those things common and ordinary and thus to be taken lightly or for granted. God wanted these things to be Holy to them, and set apart.

God made this separation between Himself and the people and only the High Priest could come before God for a specific purpose. This was to make significant the sprinkling of the blood on the Mercy Seat and to make this special to the people. But the people kept turning from God and so He came ~~xxxxxxx~~ to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. He became God's High Priest for at an appointed time He gave His life as the sacrifice for all mankind. But there was something which took place ~~xx~~ at that exact moment of His death that transformed everything for all of the Israelites and for all mankind. In Matthew 27, verses 50 and 51a, (read), we see this. The significant thing is that God caused that heavy, woven Screen of Veil to be ripped in two. But how was it torn? Not from the bottom to the top which would have been the normal way for it to tear. Instead it was from the Top to the Bottom. The significance of this is that it came from God's direction to man. Not from man upward to God. This took place so that God could be revealed perfectly through Jesus Christ. The way was now open to God without needing a middle man to act on behalf of each individual. Now anyone could come to God for forgiveness.

We think of all of the circumstances and events that God had put forth to reveal Himself to mankind and quite often we think that all of this was the work and doing of other people and really doesn't involve us too much.

(Illustration of ~~xx~~ soldier whipping Christ in a dream, and it was himself)
If each of us would think of ourselves as being the ones who made it necessary for Christ to die, perhaps we would understand better the love that God has for us. In all of this God is revealing Himself and saying to any and all who will come, "I love you, and I did this for you." May the ~~things~~ Screens or Veils which separate you and I from God be removed by the reality of us coming to Jesus Christ for His cleansing once again.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Easter Sunday April 15, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Dir.
Mr. Paul Harbison, Liturgist
Mr. Lloyd Link and Mrs. Ginger Harbison -
Youth Choir Directors
Brian Hollefreund, Lori Penrod - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Awake Thou Wintry Earth" Bach
*Processional Hymn 167 "Christ the Lord is risen"
*The Ascription
*Choral Call to Worship "The Festival Day is Here"
*Invocation (In Unison) Hopson
Almighty God, Our Father, in this time of
meditation and worship let our hearts and minds be
focused on Him who gave His life for us, and arose
from the dead to reveal the greatness and power of
Your love. Help us to comprehend this miracle we
call Easter. In these quiet moments together, let
Your Holy Spirit work and perform His miracle in
our lives that enables us to die to self, in order
that we might live. Give us the faith to know
that the love which seems to be buried in darkness
and death in this life, shall be overcome through
Your power and majesty and the whole world will
know the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Now
by the might of Your Spirit, lift us into Your
presence, and let us be still and know that You
are God; through our risen Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ. Amen.

Praise

Pastor: Praise ye the Lord!
People: The Lord's name be praised.

*Doxology

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Joys, Prayer Requests

Youth Choir Anthem "He Arose"

Easter Prayer - *HE*

The Offering

Solo - "An Easter Story" Paisley Sung by Cyndie Sybert
The Easter Anthem "Joy in the morning" Sleeth

Sung by the Chancel Choir

The Scripture: Luke 23:50 24:12

The Sermon: "Two Empties Make One Full"

The Sermon Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*The Hymn of Triumph No. 165 "The Day of Resurrection!"

The Benediction

*The Choral Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

*The Postlude "Christ the Lord is Risen" Morris

----- *Congregation Standing -----

Serving as Ushers today are: *Rob Vinroe, Bob Dellen,
Randy Dellen, and Gordon Kennedy.

Deacon and Mrs. Bruce McBride will greet the Congrega-
tion at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Gloria Walker,
Karen Nagy and Chris Gibbs.

The attendance last Sunday was 281.

Mon. - 7:30 - Fidelity Bible Class meeting

Tues. - 7:00 - Church and Ministry Committee meeting.

Wed. - 7:30 - Golden Circle - Bible Study with Rev.

Link.

Thurs. - 10:30 - Bible Study led by Zitt Thompson
at Dru Rensel's.

Fri. - ARC Class will go to Civic Arena to see Gaithers.

Next Sunday - Holy Baptism

Next Sunday - Congregational Meeting for the purpose

of going over the new Guidelines for the new Bldg.

Next Sunday evening - 7:00 - Since there was a

fantastic response to forming a young children's

choir, the first rehearsal will be Sun. evening.

See you then!

Mike Mazaruk and Allen Botacchi will be visiting the

Hospital this week.

Hospitalized - Mrs. Eleanor McWilliams. *Hiwara JAILLET*

Chancel Choir - no rehearsal this week.

Elders and Deacons don't forget to get your slips

back as early as possible. --

There is no detour to holiness. Jesus came to the

resurrection through the cross, not around it.

Have a nice Easter - Not only a car can be recalled

by its maker. Drive carefully!

"Two Emptys Make One Full"

Scrip: Luk 23:50-24:12; Text: Luk 23:53; 24:3

How many glad here? How many wish home bed? Relax, al s any time spk in short time hav few nod acquaints
This morn wud lik 2disprov law of physics;law sez:
if pour out empty,in2 empty,othr stil empty,but I
s. =Two Emptys Make One Full"

Gud Fri ovr;that day which mob peop solv prob had w/impostr & hav executed

They dispos of Him & only prob,how 2get rid body by sunset so feast no mar by criminal & instrment in vu

Read Scrip=Vss 50-53=Explain ~~Vss 53~~ Only evidenc is empty cros stan distant hil siloutte agin eve sky
That half story:

Othr half concern grp peop cum 2tomb crak dawn 2 finaliz prep of body 4burial
Feast passovr past & mus B bout grusome task do 4 their frend

But cum & find ston rol way & read vs 3=READ
Now thats the mesag,both parts,but it same as herd las yr & yr B4 & wat effect duz it hav?

Sum1 sed=The Empty tomb proves Xpianity, the empty pew denies it; & by way peop cal Xpian leav empty pews,an awful lot of them deny it

But 4us 2hav sumthin positiv this East day,let us think all this nothr way:

(Illus preachr,boy & cage,birds,preachr bot,set free)
(Illus Js,Satan,prisoners,Js bwy w/blud set free)

Let the 2cages stan 4 two othr things as well
let 1st cage stand 4 cros on Calvary;it was occupy on Friday,but it is empty 2day

(at empty cros stans 4,4givnes Ur sins thru sacrific made on it by Js Xp

2nd cage stand 4Gardn tomb;occupy until erly this ~~xxx~~ Easter morn;but it empty now

that empty tomb stan 4lif Byon grav which provid 4U by Resurrectin of Js Xp

Now hav 2Emptys & by evry law physics no way 2emptys can caus anything 2B full

But Scienc & laws physics wrong Bcuz G can mak U full from 2 emptys

He can mak U so ful of His luv if U wil let it soak in2 Ur harts,that Ur lif wil nevr B the same

We celebrat East 1nce evry Yr,but sum1 sed=Eastr is every day & it is

The truth of Easter is that it sets us free from the humdrum existence of this life,2 a lif that is filled with joy that shud hav no end

"Two Emptys Make One Full"

Scrip: Lk 23:50-24:12; Texts: Lk 23:53; 24:3

1nce agin pas thru Lent & jus few day ago Gd Friday th day hist mob peop solv prob hav imoistr execute dispos Him & only prob how get rid B4 sunset/feast Vs 53=Jos remov & 4 practic purps imoistr out site d y remind empty cros midst 3,on hil silhou agin sk

That only half story:
othr half concern peop cum Tomb crak dawn 2 finaliz burial frend;Feast past & cud do grusum task

Cum & find hvy ston rol way
vs 3=READ THIS=no body??

Now thats mesag,both parts & it same mesag last yr, yr B4,yr B4 etc

Mus ask Wat effect duz it hav?
(Illus=EMPTY TOMB PROV XPIANTY,EMPTY PEW DENIES IT)

& accord this mus B awful lot peop deny Bcuz during rest yr avg church empty,but I no supos 2say this

step 2many toes,so wat do we preach bout of East if spk empty cros,& tomb & no1 seem 2 hear or listn?

(Illus yng minister & hors rac,whisky,tobaco,witch Dr This prob whethr U kno or not:Examp U & othr no listr

In ord 2giv positiv East Sun,I impres buty chancel Butiful Beuz Lily,I hope U no saw last tim Poinseta

I add 2buty this AM & Here it is=BIRD CAGE
(Illus boy & birds & man buy 4 couple dollars)

Now ask quest. WAT Bettr 1 empty cage? 2 of corse (2nd cage & Js & Satan

But let thez 2 cage stan 4 2othr things as well
1st 1stan 4 Cros hil Calvary=Fri occupy=2day East empty

2nd 1stan 4 Tomb in gadn=occupy until AM=Eastr empty
(stan 4 4givnes sin,othr stan 4etern lif beyond grav

Jw hav 2Emptys & science,physics say no caus Bfull Science,physic wrong B4 G & can mak Ur lif complet

Full His luv if U tak East mesag & let soak hart/li: He can mak Ur lif so ful,Bcuz 2emptys U nevr B same

Sum1 sed=Eastr every day & shud B & we shud kno this truth & truth shud set us free humdrum exist,2 a lif

has fullnes Joy has no end
Karl Barth sed 1truth & chet Staufr sed Thanksgiv

I wud add 2 mor 2it I hav found 4my lif & Full of G 1st=Joy 2 the world the Lord is Cum=this Xmas & alti

2nd=Js luv me this I know,lik Karl Barth
3rd reveal many ways=Illus Coms & peopl in square

The 2Emptys r ther 4ea us my frends=Cros & Tomb
May G Make ea U Full His Joy thru that knowledg thi

d .



Leighton Ford Butler Crusade

in cooperation with the Billy Graham Crusades

Butler Intermediate High School Auditorium
October 14-21, 1979

249 South Main Street
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 282-8523

In a certain country following world war II, the communists had taken over that land. The people at one time were herded into the towns & when they were all assembled there, the communist leader mounted the rostrum and harangued them for a long period of time. Then he looked down at the local Christian pastor and said, "I will now give you five minutes to reply."

The pastor replied, "I don't need five minutes, all I need is five seconds." He stepped up on the platform and shouted, "Jesus Christ is risen." As one man, the assembled villagers shouted back, "He is risen indeed."

The two emptys are there for each of us;

The empty cross,

The empty tomb,

Can U say that U kno Js Xp as Ur Risen L & Savior?

Hav U been born in2 that family?

Do U kno wat the cross was for? The Resurrection
(Invitation)

Leighton Ford Butler Crusade



in cooperation with the Billy Graham Crusades

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249 South Main Street
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 282-8523

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — General Chairman, Rev. Edwin Hartman*; Special Assistant, Rev. Randolph Bandy*; Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Vernon Cumberland* and Mr. Jack Reichart*; Secretary, Mrs. Charlotte Ferguson*; Treasurer, Mr. John Wise*.

Rev. Cassius Armitage
Major Robert Dries
Rev. Ralph Link
v. Gordon Powell

Rev. Crea Clark
Rev. David Goetschius
Mr. Jack Miller
Rev. John Wayne Stair

Mr. Ken Cypher
Rev. Luther Heyde
Rev. Vance Neal
Mr. Donald Thomas

Mr. Randy Cypher
Mrs. Marvalene Heyde
Mr. Richard Patterson
Mr. Phillips Wiegand

Mr. Charles Deahl
Rev. Vernon Holstad
Rev. Dan Perrin
Rev. David Wilson
Rev. William [unclear]

*Administrative Committee

"Two Emptys Make One Full"

Scripture: Luke 23:50-24:12

xts: Luke 23:53; 24:3

Once again we have passed through the season we call Lent. Just a few short days ago we observed a day we have come to call Good Friday. This is the day in history in which a mob of people solved their problem by having an imposter executed. They disposed of Him and the only problem they faced was how to get rid of Him by sunset of that day so that their feast day would not be marred by a criminal being in evidence upon the instrument used for His execution. This is where our Scripture for this morning begins for we read of a man obviously of means who comes to Pilate and we are told begs for the body of this criminal. In verse 53 we read that he removes the body, wraps it in linen and places it in a new sepulchre in a garden.~~xxxx~~ Thus, for all practical purposes the imposter was out of sight, out of mind. He was disposed of, and the only reminder was that empty cross standing in the midst of three, on that distant hill, silhouetted against the darkening evening sky.

But that's only half the story. The other half concerns a group of people coming to that tomb at the crack of dawn to finalize the preparation of His body for burial. The Feast of the Passover is past, and now they could^{be about} ~~xx~~ this gruesome task ~~xxxxxxxthebodyoftheirfriendxxxx~~ of preparing their friends' body for its proper burial. But they come to the tomb and they find the heavy stone rolled away from the entrance. And we read in the third verse, "And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus."

Now that's the message, Both parts of it. But it's the same message we have preached last year, and the year before, and the year before. And we must ask "What effect does it have?" Someone once said, "The empty tomb proves ~~Christian~~ Christianity ----- the empty pew denies it." According to this then there must be an awful lot of people that deny it, because during the rest of the year the average church pews are fairly empty. But you see I'm not supposed to say this because I might tramp on too many toes. So what do we say and preach about on Easter if we speak of the Empty Cross and the Empty Tomb and no one

seems to have it make a difference in their lives? A young minister fresh out of seminary had this problem in his first very rural parish.

(Illustration of young preacher and horse racing, tobacco, whiskey, witch docs)

~~Now in order to give you something positive for this Easter Day, I have been impressed by the beauty of this Chancel area and so I thought I would like to lend my own bit of beauty to it. So here is what I made arrangements to do that with~~

Now this is a problem whether you know it or not. I am sure that almost all of you can relate to a time or place where you were speaking to someone, it may have been your wife or husband, or friend, and that particular person didn't seem to be listening or perhaps acted as if he or she didn't even care to hear what ~~ix~~ was being said. Many Sundays it is just like that trying to preach to a congregation where a hundred or so are assembled. But double that figure several Sundays a year where you have a large crowd many or most of which don't even seem to be listening or hearing, or even caring that there is a special message for them.

Now in order to give you something positive for this Easter Day I have been impressed with the beauty of this Chancel area this morning. It is beautiful on any given Sunday, but today it really looks extra special with all of the lilies. I trust that the last time you saw it was not when it was fairly well covered with Pointsettias. In order to ~~xxxx~~ add to this beauty I have made arrangements to share this thing of beauty with you, and here it is.

(Hold up bird cage).

Now let me explain this cage for you. There was once a boy who was walking through an alley of a certain town swinging a cage much like this one and in it on the bottom of the cage acting more dead than alive were several small birds huddled together.

(Continue illustration of man buying birds and releasing them, & cage is empty.)

Now I would like to ask you a question. What is better than one empty cage?

Why two of course, is the answer. And here it is, (hold up second empty cage).

Now the story concerning this second cage is one which took place between ~~God~~ Satan and Jesus Christ. Jesus was walking throughout the earth one day and He met Satan. Satan was carrying a large bird cage. Jesus asked, "What is in that cage Satan?" And Satan answered, "Why these are my prisoners." "And what do you do with them?" Jesus asked. "I play with them, and tease them, and taunt them," he answered. "And what do you do with them when you get tired of doing that?", Jesus asked. "Why I just destroy them and get new ones to take their place" he answered.

"How much would it cost to buy them?", Jesus asked. "You can't buy them, they are not for sale," ~~Satan~~ was Satan's reply. "But I want to buy them," Jesus insisted, "I want them to be free." Satan replied, "Why do that, I want them to go on murdering one another, to continue fighting and hating; to continue stealing and doing all of the fun things I can get them to do."

But Jesus asked again, "How much will you take for them, how much must I pay?" this Satan replied, "To buy them it will cost all of your blood, your very life to replace their lives." Jesus said, "I'll do that," and He took the cage and opened the door.

But let these two cages stand for two other things as well. Let this first cage stand for the cross on that hill called Calvary. It was occupied Friday, but it is empty today. That empty cross stands for the forgiveness of your sins through that sacrifice made on it by Jesus Christ.

Let this other cage stand for the Garden Tomb. It was occupied until early this Easter morning., ~~That~~ but it is empty this morning. That empty Tomb stands for a life beyond the grave which has been provided for you by the resurrection or raising of Jesus Christ from that Tomb.

Now you have Two Emptys, and by every law of physics and science there is no way that Two Emptys can cause anything to be full. But Science and the laws of physics are wrong because God can make you Full from Two Emptys. He can make your life completely Full of His love if you will take this Easter message and let it soak down into that heart of yours today. He can make you so Full from

these Two Emptys that your life will never be the same from this day forward. And this is my prayer for each and every one of you. We celebrate Easter once a year, but someone once said, "Easter is every day." And it is. We should know this truth and this truth should set us free from the humdrum existence of this life, to a life that is filled with that Joy that has no end.

The Theologian Karl Barth once said there was a basic truth that he knew which was very profound and deep. Chet Stauffer shared this with us when he spoke at Thanksgiving time. But there are two other basic truths that have made my life Full of God, which I would like to add to the truth of Karl Barth.

The first is, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come." The hymn speaks and sings of it not only at Christmas, but all year through. The second truth is like that of Karl Barth, "Jesus loves me this I know." The third is ~~one~~ a truth that was revealed when the communists took over a certain country after World War II. ~~After the communists had harangued the people who were made to~~

~~be~~ The people were made to assemble in the square and when they were all crowded there, the communist leader mounted the platform and harangued them for a long period of time. Then he looked down at the local Christian pastor and said, "I will now give you 5 minutes to reply." The pastor replied, "I don't need 5 minutes, only 5 seconds." He stepped on the platform and simply said, "Jesus Christ is risen!" As one man the assembled villagers thundered back, "He is risen indeed!"

The Two Emptys are there for each of us my firends. The Empty Cross, and the Empty Tomb. May God make each one of you Full of His Joy through that knowledge this day.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Second Sunday in Eastertide April 22, 1978
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefround, Lori Penrod - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude: "Prelude and Fugue in F Major" Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 7 "Rejoice, ye pure in heart"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "Our heavenly Father, who by Thy love hast made us, and through Thy love hast kept us, and in Thy love wouldst make us perfect, we humbly confess that we have not loved Thee with all our heart and soul, and mind, and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy love is in us, but our selfishness hath hindered Thee. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in Thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that Thy image may come into full glory in us and in all men, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

*Kyrrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Solo: "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" Nancy Lank

Cantata to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ

Baptism of Child - Kimberly Dawn Wogan - Born

Born November 13, 1978 to Mr. & Mrs. Donald Wogan.

Anthem: "Amazing Grace" Staten - Chancel Choir

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 30:13-21

Sermon: "Check The Corners"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 174 "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

*Benediction

*Response: Christ, We Do All Adore Thee" DuBois

*Postlude: "The Day of Resurrection" Morris

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. William Zavacky, Sr. in loving memory of "Mother" Anna Y Zavacky.

Serving as Ushers today are *Richard Mangel, Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.

Deacon and Mrs. Mary Burns will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by: Virginia Mangel, and Lori Zavacky.

> Hospitalized: Howard Jaillet and Mrs. Elsie Kornrumpf.

Tonight: 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship

7-9 - Youth Fellowship

Tues. - 8:00 - Faith to Faith Service here at our Church.

> Starting today and Monday evenings - Deacon and Elder Classes.

> Congregational Meeting after the Church Service this morning. Meeting is for the purpose of going over the new Guidelines for the New Building. Copies have been distributed. There are additional ones in the Narthex. IF MUST LEAVE DO SO.

Coming up - May 20 - from 2-3 - Open House and Dedication of our New Building. Public will be invited.

William Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the Hospital this week.

> Tonight - Since there was a fantastic response to forming a young Children's Choir, the first rehearsal will be tonight, at 7:00 P.M. See you then!

When God gets His, And I get mine, Then everything Goes just fine. But when I get mine, and keep God's too, What do you suppose God's going to do?

Personally, I think He'll collect - don't you?

"Check The Corners"

Scrip: 2 Chron. 30:15-21; Text: 2 Chron. 30:14

How many seasons yr? Corect ans=4, but ladies add 1
 & r,wintr,fal,spring & Spr Clean
 & mos husbs atest bes thing get los or end vac cl
 Mc fams keep ordr, but ariv day atr ofic ariv sprin
 w say=Tim 4 Spr Clean & curts, drape, etc all mov
 includ husb, pets, childrne etc & furn crak, crevic &
 cornr scour, scrape & scrub bubl, foam clens do that
 But if your hom lim min, not same 4 sumtime
 Hav fal ovr furntur cum hom late nite, home acciden
 But kno wif produc mor dirt evr drema posib
 Shirley ask, shud say tel, but get mad, sweep garage
 dutiful hus sweep, & she sweep & get bushel mor,
 mak me wondr why want me do 1st plac
 But she kno wher dirt is, not I skip corners etc
 Scrip AM deal typ housclean
 Hez suced Fthr Ahaz wicked K Judah; profan temp &
 sacrif children 2 heathn g's neighbors
 Hez gathr peop thruout Jud & N kingdom & worship G
 vs 14=clean house
 vs 17-18a=many no clensed proper
 vs 18b-19=Hez pray 2 G
 vs 20=G hear & anser
 vs 21=Prais G & thank 4 all this
 Cas wondr wher Spr Clean start & who 2blame it Isit
 in time Mos Ex 12:15
 Day B4 feast lite candl & serch hous 4 leven
 Expl leven & wat it mean & Jew & defilement of them
 2day hom Orth Jew do sam 4 Passover; mak bred MATZO
 Signif 4 us is 2 Chek Cornrs & remov altrs & dirt
 Aud remov hindranc 2walk with Lord & this 2areas
 Corporate=congregation
 (Illus Ironside & Us Only Church)
 This prob 2gard agin, easy slip superior attitude of
 we hav it U don't
 Prop way sho Xpinty, liv it daily no jus sunday
 striv liv, act, as Js wud hav do
 But find easy lk othr & C wat they need 2 do
 (Illus woman, "Cross" but is "sin.")
 Need levl with G & C selves as really R
 Let us start honesty campaign our livs & chang whol
 complex our society; mayb abl fool selvs, no fool God
 But He luv & want us overcum probs, failings
 " mus mov 2ward Him & seek help & guddanc
 Ro+ selvs compl Joy shud B ours Bcuz unwill let go
 (Illus 50,000 dolr fly & Worl Series los Bcuz peanut
 Isn't sad oft wat keep from Js powr handf. peanuts?
 Let smal insignif thing blok powr our liv

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 28, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

SHAKE HANDS

LYNN - BALOGH

TWILA - CARILAC

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: 2 CHRONICLES 30:13-21

SERMON: "CHECK THE CORNERS"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/22/79

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

MARY RISING

CHRIS - ALIODEL

KUTLA FAMILY

UNIFORM - JALU - JEAN

We shud B hungr,thirst 4 riteousnes He sed 2 seek
Let us Bgin clean hous individ livs 2day

R U will sweep out everthin which not need & whi
hindr UR walk with Lord?

If U R then don't 4get 2 Chek the Corners as well

EXODUS 12:15

VS 15=EXPLAIN DAY B4FEAST BGIN MUS LITE CANDL SERCH HOUS 4LEVN

LEVN IS YEAST

(MAK BRED, WUD KEEP SMAL LUMP DOUGH 2MAK NEX BATCH BRED

THIS DOUGH CONTAIN LEVN)

1. FERMENTS BCUZ BACTERIA W/IN &FERMENTATIN CONSIDR EVIL/SIN

SO MUSB REMOV BCUZ WUD DEFIL HOMES

THUS PEOP/HOMES, EVRTH WUDB UNCLEAR 2OBSERV PASOVR & FEAST

2DAY ORTH JEWS RITULISTICLY SERCH HOMES FOR LEVIN

USULY WIF LITE CANDLE,SYMBOLICLY SERCH ALL CORNERS

FOR ONE WK EAT ONLY UNLEVND BRED MADE W/MATZO FLOUR

THIS ORIGIN SPRING CLEANING

HEZ CLEAN TEMPL & PEO HAV RITE WORSHIP/RELATSHIP W/GOD

WE NEED SWEEP CORNRS OUR LIVS & REMOV THOZ THINGS WH/HINDR OUR

WALK W/THE LORD

2AREAS WH/SHUD DO THIS

FIRST - CORPORATE LIVES - TH/CHURCH/CONGREGATIN

(ILUS IRONSDIE & CHURCH EVOLV -"ONLY US")

SUMTH MUS GARD AGIN

SHUDNOT EVR HAV SUPERIOR ATITUD THAT WE INDIVID OR COLECTIVLY

AS CONG HAV A CORNR ON XPIANTY

WE R EA SINNRS SAVD BY TH/GACE OF JS XP

NUN OF US HAS CORNR ON GOD - HE LUVS EVRONE & DESIRS THAT

EVNONE CUM TO HIM THRU XP & B A PART OF ~~THE~~ HIS CHURCH

SECOND - NEED SWEEP CORNERS OUR INDIVIDUL LIVS

PROPR WAY 2SHO XPIANTY IS 2LIV IT

WE C & PIKOUT MISTAKS OF OTHERS,BUT DONT C OUR OWN 2REDILY

IS OF WOMAN W/CROSS TO BEAR, BUT IT IS "SIN")

WE NEED 2LEVEL W/GOD & W/OUSELVS & C US AS WE REALY R

LETS START AN HONESTY CAMPAIGN IN OUR LIVS & WE CAN CNANG THE

COMPLEXIN OF SOCIETY

FOOL FREINDS & NEIGHBORS,BUT NOT GOD

HE KNOWS US & LUVS US IN SPIE OF OURSELVS

HOW OFTN WE ROB OURSELVS OF TH/COMPLET JOY WH/SHUDB OURS BCUZ

OF AN UNWILLGNES TO LET GO OF TH/THINGS OF THIS WORLD

(ILS SOM FLY & WORLD SERIES LOST BY PEANUTS)

WE SHUDB HUNGR/THIRST 4RITEUSNES AS JS TOLD US

INSTEAD,LET SMAL INSIGNIF THINGS GET IN WAY

LET US BGIN CLEAN HOUS INDIVID LIVS 2DAY

R U WIL 2SWEEP OUT ALL THAT NOT NEEDED & WH/HINDR UR WALK

W/THE LORD??

IF WE R THEN DONT 4GET 2CHEK TH/CORNRS AS WELL

SCRIP: 2 CHRON 30:13-21; SERM: "CHECK THE CORNERS"

IF ASK - HOW MANY SEASONS IN YEAR? UNANIMOUS ANSR = FOUR
SPRING, SUMMER, WINTER & FALL

THIS CORRECT, BUT LADIES HAV ADDED ONE MORE - SPRING CLEANING!!!!

MOS HUSBBS CAN ATTEST 2THIS, & KNO MUSB WIL STEP ASID OR RISK ENDUP
IN WEEPER

MOS ~~WOMEN~~ HOMES R KEP SUM SORT OF ORDR, BUT CUMS TIM USULY W/ARIV
OF SPRING WIF DECLARS - "ITS TIME 4SPRING CLEANING"

THIS MEANS REMOVL DRAPES/CURTAINS, ANYTH MOVABL INCLUD HUS, CHILD
& PETS

FURN MOVD & EVRY CRAK/CREVIC/CORNRS SCOURD FOR DIRT
THIS WEN SCRUB BUBBLS, FOAM CLENSRS OF SOAP COMPANYS GO WORK
& IF UR HOM LIK MIN, THINGS ARNT SAME FOR SUMTIME

(ILUS MOVD FURN & FAL OVR IT LATE AT NITE=MOS ACIDENT HAPN HOME)

(ILUS SHIRLEY GET MOR DIRT THAN I, EXAMPL=CLEAN GARAGE)

SCRIP THIS MORN EXAMPL OF SPRING CLEANING

HEX SUCEED FATHR AHAB 2THRON - & AHAB 1 MOS WICKD K'S JUDAH

AHAB DABL INTERNATNL POLTICS & WEAKN ISR BCUZ THIS

PROFAN TEMPL REMOV /DESTROY ~~XXXXXX~~ SACRED ARTICLS THER

EVN SAC SUM SONS 2HEATHN GODS OF NEIGHBR NATINS 2ATAIN FAVOR
HEX GATHR PEO FR/THRUOUT JUDAH & PARTS N KINGDM WORS G, CLEAN HOU

VSS 13-14=GOT RID HEATHN OBJECTS WORSHIP - CLEAN HOUSE

VSS 15-16=EXPLAIN PREPS

VSS 17-19=MANY CAM FR/IDOLATRUS NATINS/PLACES - EXPLAIN

VS 20=G HERD & ACPTD THEIR SACRIFICE

VS 21=PRAISE/WORSHIP, JOY & THANKSGIVING

ORIGIN SPRING CLEANING

BGAN W/PASSOVER - EXODUS 12:15

"Check The Corners"

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 30:13-21

Text: 2 Chronicles 30:14

If I were to ask how many seasons there were in the year I am sure that I would receive a unanimous answer of "Four." This is the correct answer ~~xxx~~ for we have summer, ~~winter~~ fall, winter, and spring. But there is one more which the ladies have added to that list and it's called spring cleaning. I think that most husbands here can attest to this and they are aware that at this particular time the best thing to do is to get lost, or risk being whisked up into the sweeper and end up peeking out of the bag.

In most instances the family will keep the house in some sort of order, but there arrives that day, shortly after the arrival of ^{official} Spring that the wife gives the dire warning that it's time for Spring Cleaning. This means the removal of curtains, drapes, ~~furniture~~ and anything moveable, (including husbands, pets, and children). And the furniture is moved and all of the cracks and crevices, and corners are scoured for dirt and grime. This is when those scrubbing bubbles, and working suds and so forth of the soap companies go to work in earnest. But if your home is anything like mine it just isn't the same for sometime. There have been actual times when I came home late at night and have fallen over a chair or footstool that was never in that place before. That's why most accidents happen in the home.

But I happen to know for a fact that wives can produce more dirt than was ever dreamed possible. Shirley will ask me, (I should say tell me, but she might get angry), that she would like the garage swept out. Being the dutiful husband I will comply and attack the problem in earnest. Following this I will discover her sweeping the same garage, (making me wonder why she wanted me to do it in the first place, and lo and behold she will have accumulated about a bushel more dirt than I was able to produce. I attribute this to her knowledge of where the dirt is, not that I have skipped around the tools and other junk which may hide some of that dirt and dust.

~~But did you ever stop to think where the practice of Spring Cleaning came from and who we can blame it on? Well, it came from the Israelites, God's people~~

~~that is why~~ Our Scripture for this morning dealt with a type of Spring Cleaning. When Hezekiah became king of Judah, he saw that there had to be some spiritual housecleaning take place. Hezekiah succeeded his father Ahaz to the throne and Ahaz had been one of the most wicked kings that Judah had to this point. He dabbled in international politics and weakened Israel because of this. He profaned the Temple by removing and destroying some of the sacred articles there. And he sacrificed some of his sons to the heathen gods of neighboring nations in order to gain their favor. So it was that Hezekiah gathered the people from throughout Judah and from parts of the northern kingdom to worship God and to clean house.

Thus we read in the 14th verse what they did with the heathen altars which had been erected to worship heathen gods and idols, (read verse 14). But there were many in the assembled congregation who were not properly prepared for the Feast of the Passover. In other words they were not properly cleansed to partake of this Sacred feast and meal. Hezekiah realizing the intent of their ~~heart~~ hearts prayed for them, ~~(verse 18b and following)~~ (verse 18b and following). And we read that God heard his prayer, (verse 20), and the people sang and praised the Lord in Joy and thanksgiving.

In case you have ever wondered where Spring Cleaning originated, this is not the first example of it. But it did originate with the Israelites back in the time of Moses at the institution of the Passover. We find this recorded in the 12th chapter of Exodus, the 15th verse, (read this). What this ~~means~~ means during the observance of this Feast, that on the day before the Feast the Jewish law said that the Jews must light a candle and search the house for leaven. Leaven is nothing more than yeast. In the making of their bread, they ~~would~~ would keep a small portion of the dough to make the next batch of bread with. The leaven or the yeast within the dough would make it ferment and this provided the yeast or leaven for the next bread to be made. To the Jew this leaven signified rottenness or decay, because it had a bacterial action to it. This rottenness or decay stood for sin, and therefore nothing containing that which would defile them or their house could be tolerated during the Feast.

Even today in the homes of believing Jews, each house is thoroughly searched by any and all traces of leaven and it is removed and burned. Then for one week only unleavened bread or bread made with "Matzo" flour made be made and eaten. This then is the origin of Spring Cleaning. But the significance for us is to be found in this episode in the life of Hezekiah and the people of Israel, as well as in the lives of those who would keep the Feast of the Passover. We have gone through a period of Lent or self-examination and we need to make certain that we have removed all of the altars from our lives which keep us from God. We need to "Check the Corners" to make sure that we have removed all that which has accumulated there.

As we think in terms of sweeping out the Corners of our lives to remove all of those things which are not only hindrances to our walk with the Lord we should understand that there are two very definite areas in which you and I ~~xxx~~ must do this. The first area is that of our corporate lives, or our lives as a part of this congregation.

(Illustration of Dr. Ironside and church, "Only Jesus," then, "Us Only")

This is something we must all guard against at all times. It is so easy to slip into the superior attitude that we individually or collectively have a corner on ~~the religious market~~ Christianity. No one does and we need to know this. But we should also know that the proper way for us to show forth Christianity is to show it in our every day lives. It is not just a Sunday kind of thing and then it is tucked away until next week. But instead, it is ~~living~~ striving to live and act as Jesus Himself would have us to do. But we find it so easy to look at others and know just what they need to do about their lives in order to be what they should be. But it is difficult to see the same thing in ourselves.

(Illustration of woman with "cross" but is "sin.")

We need to level with God and with ourselves and see us as we really are. Let's start an honesty campaign in our lives and we can change the whole complexion of our society. We may be able to fool our friends or our neighbors about

many things in our lives. But one thing is certain, and that is we cannot fool Him. He knows us and sees all of the things which separate us from Him. But He loves us and wants to help us overcome our failings and our problems. But we must move toward Him and seek His help and guidance. We rob ourselves of the complete Joy which should be ours because of an unwillingness to let go of the things of this world.

(Illustration of 50,000 Dollar Fly, and World Series loss by peanuts)

Isn't it sad that often what is keeping us from having Jesus Power is a handful of peanuts? We let things that are small and insignificant get in the way and His power in our life is blocked. We should be hungering and thirsting for the righteousness He has told us we should seek. Let us begin to clean house in our individual lives today. Are you willing to sweep everything out which isn't needed and which is hindering your walk with the Lord. If you are then don't forget to "Check The Corners" as well.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Third Sunday in Eastertide April 29, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefreund, Lori Penrod

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Suite Gothique" Boellmann
*Processional Hymn No. 8 "Praise ye the Lord"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Lord God, our Saviour,
you have been faithful in your promise to deliver
us from the guilt of our sins, and make us
acceptable to you and your kingdom. But too
often I have not been faithful in following my
promise to obey your will, and I have not loved
my neighbors and enemies. I humbly ask forgiveness
Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy
praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 207 "Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Choral" Peeters
Anthem "Because He Lives" Gaither
Chancel Choir
Scripture: 2 Chronicles 35:20-27
Sermon: "BETTING ON TURTLES"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 380 "O Zion, haste, thy
mission high fulfilling"

*Benediction
*Response "Three Fold Amen"
*Postlude: "Marche" Peeters
----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Andrews, Jr. for Grandfather
John Barnhart.
Serving as Ushers today are: *Mike Nazaruk, Gottlob
Kradel, Roy Andrews, and James McClymonds.
Pres. and Mrs. Richard Mangel will represent Council
at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Karen Vensel, Beth
and Amy Burns.
*Hospitalized: Mrs. Kornrumpf, Howard Jaillet. - out
Tonight - 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship
7-9 - Youth Fellowship
*Wed. - 7:30 - Church Council meeting
Wed. evening - 7-9 - Bring your things in for the
Flea Market (Please use Walker Ave. door)
The Flea Market sponsored by the Women's Fellowship
will be held May 3 and 4, from 10 until 5 o'clock.
We need another refrigerator for the kitchen downstairs.
If anyone has one that they don't need - contact
the office.
All material should be in by Wed. for the Newsletter
published on Thurs.
Coming up - May 9 - Mother and Daughter Banquet
Butler County Preschool Council - The screenings will
be taking place on May 3rd and 4th, 1979, at the
Salvation Army, 313 W. Cunn. St.; and on May 10th and
11th, at the Y.M.C.A., 339 N. Wash. St. We are
requesting that prospective parents schedule appoint-
ments in advance by contacting the Easter Seal
Society at 283-1010.
Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be visiting the Hos-
pital this coming week.

Blessed is the man who is too busy to worry in the
daytime and too sleepy to worry at night.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JULY 14, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

WELCOME VISITORS

VBS - BIG THANKS TO ANY & ALL WHO DID ANYTHING TO MAKE
SUCCESSFUL

NEED PEOPLE SIGNUP FOR REFRESHMENTS
BETWEEN SS & CHURCH.

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN

SCRIPTURE: 2 CHRONICLES 35:20-27

SERMON: "BETTING ON TURTLES"-ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 4/29/79

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

NORMA JEAN

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

1. Cultivate an atmosphere of acceptance.
2. Find strong adult support.
3. Challenge your youth.
4. Encourage individual involvement by personal contact.
5. Use prayer and worship in your group.
6. Develop a sense of ownership among your kids.
7. Create a statement of purpose for your group.

Scripture: 2 Chron 35:20-27
Text: 2 Chron 35:21d

Man tim lif no wat seem 2B, (Illus man accident/Hell)
Gud illus appears deceiv
Story turtle, rabbit & result=but supos no kno anser
(d bet on tuttl? Corse not, but oft C unlik hapen
& G do thing this way tak case Josiah as examp
Gud king, reign age 8, & 4=31yrs; relig reform etc
Scrip=event suroun Jos deth
Necho=Egypt K, fite Asyr & Jos blok pasag Egypt thru
land; Necho say no fite Jos & read Text
Jos listen? Corse not, disguise self & do batle Necho
vs 22b=Read, & Jos wond & die
LESSON=race no alway 2 swift & oft won by Turtles
Can run ahed G, bring unecary probs Bcuz no listn?
YES, & Jos gud examp
Die B4 time, but G permit free will, choic, no robots
no lengthn day, but can shortn irresponsib life
Wat Jos real prob? Unwil Bliev G operat thru heathn
Made horribl mistake (Illus fireman & baby doll)
Sincer, but sincerly wrong=Josiah
Jos also try liv lif as thot shud B liv insted G will
(Illus secretary dog-ear card & Brent saved)
Mus folo wat seem lik impuls & secrtrary did that
reasons 4 discard=old, adres, too out date etc
But G had othr plan
Sommon sens say no bet Turtles, insted bet rabbit
Win record & that wat life abour
But in realm G duz unexpec & need B aware this
Jos lack 1 thin cud sav lif 4nothr day
(Illus man 2 ded doves)
(is Jos lack, comple luv 4 G
Can same B seed 4us? Is luv Xp compel 2 liv 4 Him?
Xp mus tak precedenc over all thing that cal & beckon
Race not alway 2 swift & G determin outcum
If run with G expec plod step, by step that lead 2
victory & that victory won thru Xp

SCRIP: 2 CHRON 35:20-27; SERM: "BETTING ON TURTLES"

(ILLUS JUMP AT CONCLUSIONS *MUSHROOM/STEAK DINNER/DOG DED, ETC)

MANY TIM THINGS OF LIF NOT ALWAYS WAT APPEAR 2B

APPEARANCES ARE DECEIVING

STORY TURTLE & RABBIT - IF NO KNO STORY, BUT KNO DIF SPEED RAB/TURT
(U BET ON TURTLE TO WIN???)

CORSE NOT, BUT G HAS WAY DO THING DIRECTLY OPOSIT WAY THINK SHUDE
DUN

JOSIAH: GUD KING, REIGN 31YRS - CAME THRON AGE 8 (LAST SUNDAY)

GRT PROG RELIG REFORM & PEO GO BAK WORSHIP G INSTED HEATHNS

SCRIP THIS MORN BOUT DETH JOSIAH

VS 20-EGYPT FITE NOT AGIN JUDAH

VS 21-NECHO SEND AMBAS 2JOSIAH & EXPL WAT DID DIRECT FR/GOD

VS 22-JOSIAH NO BLIEV

REAL GIST OF THIS IN VS 22B - READ

VS 23-JOSIAH WOUNDED

VS 24=HE DIED & WAS BURIED

PRUFS - RACE NOT ALWAYS 2SWIFT - SOMETIMES TURTLES WIN

CAN WE/DO WE SOMETIMES RUN AHED OF G??

DO WE SOMETIMS BRING UNNECESSARY PROBS LIWS BCUZ NO LISTN???

JOSIAH - WE C HE DY B4TIME - KNO HAND OF G WEN, ETC -BUT CAN SHOR

WE NO ROBOTS & G PERMIT FREEWILL

WAT JOSIAH REAL PROB?? - UNWIL 2BLIEV G OPRAT THRU SUMONE WHO

CONSIDRD 2B UNBLIEVR, HEATHN

JOSIAH MADE A HORRIBLE MISTAKE

(ILLUS HOUIS BURN, WOMAN BABY, FOREMEN RESCUE BABY & SINCERELY WRONG

FIREMEN WER SINCERE -- BUT SINCERELY WRONG

THIS WAS JOSIAH - SINCERE, BUT SINCERELY WRONG

DOES GOD WORK?

(A LITTLE BOY DISCOVER - G WORKS FR/INSIDE)

HOW DO WE FIND THIS OUT???

ASK HIM TO WORK IN US, OUR LIVS, SEEK HIM, TRUST HIM 2DO SO

PITY IN JOSIAHS LIF HE DIDNT GET NOTHR CHANC 2LIV/WORK FOR GOD

DO WE PERHAPS THINK WE SMAL INBIGNIF & THER4 G NO CARE BOUT US?

(ILLUS ANONYMUS WRITR & LETTR FR/JESUS)

NEED 2HAV JS TAK PRECEDENC OVR WAT WE WANT & THINGS WH/BECKON

US FR/HIM

HE LIVS US & WANTS SHO US RACE OF LIF NOT 4EAYS WON BY THOZ

W/POWER/MONY/PRESTIGE, ETC

IT EVENTULY WON BY TURTLES - THOZ WHO PLOD ALONG QUIETLY SERV

& LIVING NOT 4THIS WORLD, BUT 4TH/KINGDOM OF GOD

"Betting On Turtles"

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 35:20-27

Text: 2 Chronicles 35:21d "Forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not."

Many times in life things are not always what they appear to be.

(Illustration of man, auto accident and Shell gas station)

Here is a good illustration of appearances being deceiving. I am sure that all of us know the story of the race between the rabbit and the turtle. We know the results of that race, but just suppose we didn't. Suppose someone was promoting a race such as this. Knowing the difference between the speed of the rabbit as compared to the speed of the turtle, would you bet on the turtle to win? Of course not. But how often do we see the most unlikely thing come to pass? God has a way of doing things in a directly opposite way in which we think that it should be done. Take the case of Josiah as a good example.

There was a good king. He became king of Judah at the age of 8 and he reigned for 31 years. He carried on a great program of religious reformation and got the people back to worshiping Almighty God instead of the pagan and heathen gods they had been following.

In our scripture this morning we read of the events surrounding the death of Josiah. What took place was that Necho king of Egypt came to fight against King Charchemeish of Assyria and King Josiah blocked the passage of the Egyptians through his land. The king of Egypt sent ambassadors to Josiah telling him that his quarrel was not with Judah, but with the Assyrians. This is what he gives to Josiah as a solemn warning, "Forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not." But did Josiah listen to this advice? Of course not. Who was this king to tell him what to do. So he disguised himself that he could do battle against King Necho and we read that Josiah, "Hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo," vs 22b. Josiah was wounded and died. The lesson from this is that the race is not always won by the swiftest. Quite

often it is won by turtles. Can we run ahead of God? Do we sometimes bring necessary problems into our lives because we do not listen? The answers of course are "Yes."

As we look at Josiah we must come to the conclusion that he died before his time. We know that all of this is in the hands of God, but we must understand that God permits us to exercise our right of doing our own thing. We always have that free will, or free choice of doing what we want. This doesn't mean of course that God is not wanting us to do otherwise. But we can act and do as we please and God will permit this. We are not robots controlled by a giant superpower. We cannot lengthen our lives because God has a set time for that day when He will call each of us in death. But we can hasten that day by irresponsible living such as Josiah.

What was Josiah's real problem though? We must say that he was unwilling to believe that God could or would operate through someone who was considered as heathen to him and his people. ~~xxxxxxx~~ The worst thing he did was to make a horrible mistake.

(Illustration of burning house, woman, fireman, baby & sincerely wrong)

This was Josiah. He was sincere, but he was sincerely wrong when it came to living as God intended for him to live at this point.

But Josiah was also striving to live life as he thought it must be lived. He was operating out of the will of God. This decision must be faced by everyone almost daily in life if they are to follow God's leading. How to know what ^{from us} God wants, is the question.

(Illustration of church secretary and dog eared card, kept, used & Brent saved)

This is a dramatic example of ~~xxx~~ doing God's will and we can see that quite often it takes the form of just following the impulse planted in our lives to do that which runs contrary to our normal way of thinking. The easiest thing for that secretary would have been to discard that card. It was old, it had hung around too long, maybe the address was wrong. All of these things were distinct possibilities. But God wanted her to do it as she did and thus His

will was revealed. Common sense tells us not to bet on turtles, but instead on the rabbit. His record is one of winning and this is what it is all about. But when we are speaking in the realm of God, He does the unexpected and we need to be aware of this.

But Josiah good and faithful king that he was, lacked one small detail which would have saved ~~him~~ him for another day in which to live for God. That detail was his lack of complete love and trust that God was involved in this situation. (Illustration of man and two dead doves)

This Josiah lacked. Can the same be said of us? Is your love for Christ so strong and so compelling that you would give your life for Him? In all probability we will never be asked to do so. But we need to bring ourselves to the point where Jesus Christ takes precedence over all of the things which can enthrall us, and beckon us to draw away from our Lord. The race is not always to the swiftest, especially when the ~~xx~~ outcome is being determined by God.

We need to expect that ~~xxxxx~~ those running with God are plodding step by step in an ordered will and plan which will ultimately lead to victory. The victory that belongs to those who seek to follow the will of God, knowing that the impossible is what He brings about. In the race of life bet on turtles because God is using more of them than He is rabbits.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fourth Sunday in Eastertide May 6, 1979
Christian Family Week

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Direct
Lori Zavacky and Julie Vargo - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Carillon" Dubois
*Processional Hymn No. 38 "O day of rest and gladness"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "Father, give us the spirit
Your Son has promised us; to make us honest
people again; to know and face the truth; to see
ourselves and cease from laying our defections
at your door; to see your only goodness in our
desperate need for you. Forgive us through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy
praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Hymn No. 232 "Mid all the traffic of the ways"

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Adagio" Dubois

Anthem: "Let's Just Praise the Lord" Gaither

Scripture: Genesis 13:5-13

Prayer: "WARNING: ROOTS MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO
YOUR HEALTH"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 474 "I've found a Friend"

*Benediction

*Response "Three Fold Amen"

*Postlude: "Improvisation" Morris

----- *Congregation Standing -----

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by

Mrs. Grace Riddle in loving memory of her "Husband"

Serving as Ushers today are: *Allen Botacchi,

Dan Bosko, Robert Knauer and Charles Penar.

Mr. & Mrs. Gottlob Kradel will greet the congregation

at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Cyndy McWilliams,

Robin Knauer and Ellen Master.

Hospitalized: Mr. Homer Beatty, Mrs. Mabel Lippold.

Attendance Apr. 22 - 216; Apr. 29 - 195

Dick Mangel and George Eichhorn will be visiting the

hospital this week.

Tonight - 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship

7-9 - Youth Fellowship

Mon - 7:30 - Women's Mary Prugh Circle meeting

Wed. - 5:45 - (Sharp) - Please be prompt. Bring a

tureen, own table service. Dessert, beverage and

meat will be provided. Entertainment (Mine-Glo)

Bring a friend, Mother, Daughter - MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

BANQUET.

Coming up!!!

Thurs. 17th - 6:30 - Butler Area Layman's Dinner -

Ladies Nite - Grace Reformed Church - Harmony.

Price \$3.50 each. Chuck Penar and J. Walter Harmon

have tickets.

May 20 - OPEN HOUSE OF OUR NEW MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING.

The corner stone will be laid. Entertainment by

Master's Road Crew (Gospel Singers) They are supposed

to be very good. Time is 2:00 to 3:00. Cookies,

punch and coffee will be served afterwards.

+ + + + +

GOOD MORNING, GOD!

"YOU are ushering in another day Untouched and freshly

new. So here I come to ask You, God, If You'll renew

me, too. Forgive the many errors That I made yesterday

And let me try again, dear God, To walk closer in THY

Way... But, Father, I am well aware I can't make it on

my own so TAKE MY HAND AND HOLD IT TIGHT For I can't WALK

AF - 3 "

"Warning: Roots May Be Hazardous To Your Health"
pture: Gen. 13:5-13; Text: Gen 13:10a

May Bgin fam wk, & wen think fam=wiv, hus, child, marag
Ordr fam cum in2 oper mus B sum choic, hus, wif marag
Marag lik cafeter, pik wat want & pay 4 later

Tip AM prov this lif man name Lot, shud chang maxin
2=Lif lik cafeteria, pik wat want & pay 4 latr
Lot neph Abram, bin 2gethr Canaan but herd, flok grew
vss 8-9=herdsmen fite & hard feeling & Abram giv Lot
1stchoic of land & wat did he choos?

vs 10a=TEXT: he look worldly eyes, pik best

vs 11=Thus Lot was etled in new land

vs 12=Pitch tent 2ward Sodm

vs 13=tell us about that city & people

All transpir sho Lot set site gain wat perf, flawlw
ess, at leaest outward appear

Also sho Lot knu circumst Sod but pitch tent anyh
this 1st lessn lern from Lot=here begin end 4him

he start put dwn roots 4 self & fam, & thoz not best
he mak decis, choic worldly, no read ask G, or wrestl
hard with decision simpl=(Read Text)

This also lesn 4us 2day & that crystal clear=mus nevr
mak decis bas upon wat eye C's Bcuz Satan pack thez
thing nice packag

mus seek wat G want & ask=How this agre G Word?

anser 4lif in Bib, & if no read, use, nevr kno anser

Bib mus B texbook 4all of lif & mus B use as such

Gen. 19:1=read furthr rev Lot charactr & ment man of
authroty, how gain? by status quo & afect whol famly

(Illus denomination 2day & no call homo sin)

Lot no raise voice & many 2day neither

(Example San Fran, & Rochester)

As long as remain silent lik Lot, giv tacit agreement

Mus speak out agin sin & condemn it if name Js Xp

Lot lk world eye & choz, then big man by compromise,

Next=19:30=escap destruc Sod & Gom & liv in cave

Wat folo sho depth sin, degrad, he & fam fal 2

2 doters get drunk, seduce, preg & incestous relat
not G Will, (Examp Bib comentary necesty 2populate

G no condon imoral 2contin human race

But do U C depth fam sunk 2? No covr all, nex wk res

Lot influ livs girls, thot nothin do wat did, go 2bed

Gd posib Bcuz his stance, they imoral & miss it

(Illus daughtr & no taut 2 die)

Hav U taut ur fam how 2die? Or hav givn etiquet?

Tem slip away & fam gro, 2late wen big, start erly

Canot, wilnot hav perf fams, but mus put prop thing in
Hav U shar Js Xp ur children, grandchildrn? Or only

kno Sesame St. etc

May no B awar ea day put dwn roots where R
But lik Lot mus kno warn connect thoz roots,
Warning: Roots May Be Hazardous To Your Health, &
the health of whol famly as well.

"Warning: Roots May Be Hazardous To Your Health"

Text: Genesis 13:10a

Scripture: Genesis 13:5-13

Today marks the beginning of Christian Family Week. When we think in terms of families we naturally think of parents and children, or husbands and wives and marriage. In order for a family to come into being there must always be some choices which set the entire thing in motion. A man must choose to marry a woman and establish a home. Someone once remarked, "Marriage is like a cafeteria you pick out what you want and pay for it later."

Our Scripture this morning proves this in the life of a man named Lot. But we should change the maxim to read, "Life is like a cafeteria, you pick out what you want and pay for it later. Lot was the nephew of Abram. They had been together in Canaan but now their flocks and herds had grown to the point where they had to separate. . Their herdsmen were fighting and there was hard feelings arising on both sides. So Abram says to Lot, ~~(verses 8 and 9)~~ (read verses 8 and 9). Here we see that Lot was being given first choice of the land. And what does Lot choose? Verse 10 tells us, "And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere." His eyes beheld what was the choicest piece of property and he wanted it for himself. At this point in his life he was choosing that which was ^{WORLDLY} ~~wordly~~. He selected what looked too good to pass up. So we read in verse 11, (read this). Thus he was settled in his new chosen land. Verse 13, tells us that Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom, and verse 13 tells us something about that particular city. So what has transpired thus far is that Lot set his sights on gaining that which appeared to be good and perfect and flawless at least from outward appearances. But it also shows that ~~xxx~~ even though Lot knew the circumstances of Sodom, and how wicked the place and people were, nevertheless, he pitched his tent toward Sodom. This is the first lesson we can look at from the life of this man. Here was the beginning of the end for him. He was just starting to put down roots for the entire future of himself and his coming family and those roots were not put down in the best of circumstances. Lot was making his

decisions and choices simply from a worldly standpoint. We do not read that there was a consultation between himself and God, or that he even wrestled long and hard about this. We are simply told that he lifted up his eyes and saw the rich fertile land before him, and then he ignored the evil and corruption around him by pitching his tent toward Sodom.

The lesson for all of us is crystal clear in this. We can never make decisions which are based simply upon what our eyes see that shines and glistens and attracts us. ~~Satan~~ Satan always wraps his packages in the prettiest and finest that can be had. We must continually seek that which God wants us to have by seeking His guidance and direction. One rule of thumb must always be, "How does this equate, or agree with God's Word?" The answers for all of life are to be found in the Bible and if we are acquainted with the Bible enough we can receive the answers God has for us there. Needless to say, we cannot find any answers from the Bible if we never open it, or read it, or make an effort to understand it.

Each Bible must always be, first, last and always, our textbook for all of life. ~~If we were to involve ourselves in~~ But then if we follow this man Lot a little further along in life, we see that there is still a further revelation of his character. In the very first verse of chapter 19 of Genesis we read, (read this). Lot sitting in the gate meant that he was a man ^{OF} authority in Sodom. He had gained this reputation and therefore he was sought after for advice and wisdom. Now how did he gain this authority? By being a part of what was going on in the city. This means of course that he was not bucking the system. He was a part of the status quo. He may not have been completely in agreement with everything, but by his tacit, or silent acceptance, from all appearances he accepted their way of life. This particular manner of Lot effected not only himself, but his entire family, as we shall see a little later. This is a lesson that too often is repeated in many areas of society today. We have this problem within our own denomination today. The very immoral activity which was taking place in Sodom, right under Lot's nose, is what our denomination is advocating we do not call sin today. Lot was surrounded by homosexuality in particular and immorality of all kinds in general. Yet, we do not read or hear that he raised his voice against

these evils. In our nation, San Francisco is supposed to have approximately 10% of that city's population as homosexuals. I recently received a letter from a Baptist church in Rochester New York which is waging a battle against the homosexuality running rampant there, requesting help. The city council there is made up of a group of homosexuals and the laws are being changed to protect and give more liberal rights to them. The object is to make Rochester the San Francisco of the East. Surprisingly, many of the clergy of Rochester are backing what is taking place there. We need to know that as long as we remain silent on sin and evil, whether in our community, in our government, in the nation, or even in the church, we give silent or tacit agreement to what is taking place. We must raise our voices in protest and continue to protest, or we will fall by the way as other nations and organizations have in the past. If we name the name of Jesus Christ in our lives, then we must follow where He has led and root out evil wherever and whenever it is found.

Lot looked and chose by looking through worldly eyes, then he became a big man in the community by compromising his principles, but he did yet a third thing. In the 19th chapter we read in verse 30, (read this). ~~XXXXXXXX~~ He had escaped with two of his daughters from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Here he was living in a cave, a far cry from what he had been accustomed to. ~~XXX~~ But what follows in this Scripture shows the depths of sin and degradation he had fallen to, but it also shows the evil influence his life had upon his family. His two daughters got him drunk, two nights in a row, and then they seduced him so that they became pregnant by him. This evil incestuous relationship was most certainly not of God's will. Yet I was reading a Bible commentary on this passage and the author pointed out that perhaps these two daughters believed there were no other men left alive, and their desire was to carry on the race. How assinine could anyone who calls themselves a Christian be? God does not condone immorality in order to continue the progress of the human race. He still wants truth and virtue and honor among His people. But do you see the very depths this family had sunk to? We haven't covered all of them and will continue with the rest next week. But the point here is that Lot's influence

in the lives of these girls was such that they thought nothing of getting their father drunk and then going to bed with him. We do not read it anywhere, but it is a good possibility that because of Lot's loose stand on immorality these girls may have been living immorally, and then being cut off from the others by the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah they couldn't stand being without the old life they had enjoyed. This is pure speculation of course, but it makes more sense than to believe they did this out of a humanitarian effort to continue the race. But one thing is certain and that is Lot's evil influence had been deeply rooted in the lives of his family.

(Illustration of daughter of well to do family dying, and not knowing how)

Have you taught your family how to die? Or have you instead given them all sorts of instructions in how to hold a fork and spoon, and neglected the things of God? Time had a way of slipping by and when the family is almost grown is too late to try to form in their lives what must take place at an early age. We cannot and will not have perfect families. But that should not stop us from striving to put into those families the ideals and the right things of life. Have you shared Jesus Christ with your children? With your grandchildren? Or do they only know Mickey Mouse, and Sesame Street and those types of things? We may not be aware of it, but each day of our lives we are putting down roots wherever we are. But like Lot, we must come to know that there is a warning connected with those roots. The warning is, "Roots May Be Hazardous To Your Health," and the health of all of your loved ones as well.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Festival of Christian Home
Mother's Day May 13, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Lori Zavacky, Julie Vargo - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Andante" Ratcliffe
*Processional Hymn No. 176 "Crown Him with many crowns"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Father, too often we have been involved in a meaningless round of activities. All of this has kept us busy but has brought no satisfaction. Forgive us for being self-centered, and grant us new strength through a renewed return to your will for our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."
*Kyrle (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Solo: "My Tribute" A. Crouch - Sung by Lloyd Link
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Allegretto" Ratcliffe
Anthem: "Fairest Lord Jesus"
Don Kennedy and the Chancel Choir
Scripture: Genesis 19:12-28
Sermon: "MORE UNHEALTHY ROOTS"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 452 "We would be building"
*ediction

*Choral Amens
*Postlude "Lead on, O King"

*Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Bill and Marge Smiley in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are *Wally Feder, John Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Galbraith will greet the Congregation and Visitors at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Patty Wogan and Mary Dellen.
Tonight 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship
Tonight 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Tuesday - 5:30 - Mother and Daughter Tureen Dinner
Brownie Troop
Thurs. - 10:30 - Mary Martha Circle Meeting at Sara Snow's. Zitt Thompson will lead Bible Study.
Thurs. - 6:30 P.M. - Butler Area Layman's Dinner - Ladies Nite - Grace Reformed Church in Harmony - Price 3.50 each. Chuck Penar and J. Walter Harmon have tickets.
NEXT SUNDAY - 2:00-3:00 P.M. - OPEN HOUSE OF OUR NEW MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING. The corner stone will be laid. Entertainment by Master's Road Crew (Gospel Singers) They are supposed to be very good. We will also have other special music by Mrs. Heaton and her daughter. Cookies, punch and coffee will be served afterwards. 2:00-3:00 - Dedication Service.
Hospitalized: - Mr. Homer Beatty, Mrs. Mabel Lippold, - *Homer*
Mr. Larry George. *DIED - FURNACE 10/17/1978*
Rob Sybert and Bruce McBride will be visiting the Hospital this coming week.
Andrew Muvowo from Zambia will be in the Butler Area May 22-28th. He will be preaching at our Church on May 27th.
Early Services will be starting June 3, Church School at 9:00 and Morning Worship at 10.
June 10 - Recognition of Seniors - Please call Bea if you have a daughter or Son graduating from High School, College or etc.
Reserve June 24 - Church in the Park and Family Picnic.
Vac. Bible School - have all registration forms in by May 27th.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. - May 9, 1993

Prelude

Joys/Greetings/Announcements/Prayer Requests

Family day celebration Tuesday May 11, 6:30, bring covered dish

Sunday May 30, Rev. Walter Kenyon

Ascription

Call to Worship:

Read Responsively #408 - Page 338

*Hymn

Offering/Prayer

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Scripture: Genesis 19:12-28

Sermon: "More Unhealthy Roots" St. Paul's Butler 5/13/79

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Postlude

TO DO

BILL

MCINTIRE FAMILY

BILL WALKER

SANDY

DIANE

"More Unhealthy Roots"

Scripture: Gen. 19:12-28; Texts: Gen 19:14b, 26

Sum1 ask=If U shook fam tree, wat wud fall out?

Perhap no thot tree, mayB no want 2chek various reas
Centur say few cud claim lif siz salt shaker or
ancestrs 2worldly destroy & no flee

This wat tuk plac Lot & fam & las wk spok roots impl
by him & this AM lk furthr roots & he and wife

Expert=sum1 travl mor 50 mi 2speak & thez experts
say destruc Sod & Gom no tak plac

Explain:Wm Albright 1924 SE Dead Sea civil end 2000 E
Mt. Usdom stratum salt 150ft thik, abuv Marl, Free Sul
Rite tim G ignit gas & explos, salt, sulph, bitumen &
actual Fire & B, imstone

Also many pilars salt by Dead Sea
vs 14=angel tel Lot tel Sons-in-law
vs 14b=no Bliev, perhap Bcuz past compromis/status que
vs 17=tol not 2 lk Bhind, ask 2 go to Zoar & left
vs 26=Wif defy wat tol & lk bak & plir salt

She mus bin influenc by Lot & did own thing & his
influ gav "More Unhealthy Roots" & famly perish
(Illus woman cum Dr. Sweeting, get divorc tel of dog)

1=Dog want 2B notic=How trivial is it?
(Illus MC, boy, G W shington, God, woman/Mom)

Led knu wat impôrt, mothr notic, but how do we not??
Set asid day & many try 2impres heighbor, comun etc
wat gud son/dotr realy R & wine, din, present etc
Many mothr expec this & hurt if no get & read Dear
Abby nex few wk & C this brot out

Of red Dear Abby pas wk red wat mos mothr want from
charts children & not cost money
But I think shud abolish stupid Mothr/Father day &
concentrate on get fams bak in order & perspectiv

2=Dog wag tail & wen notic, want 2B spoken 2

Here need 4 recognit in dif way
(Illus woman bad day, hus & children show luv)
Gud examp unspokn recog need pas Btween mems famly
Wen was las tim U did sumthin unakk, unselfish?

we say=ACTION SPEAK LOUDR THAN WORDS

(Illus =People by Little Girl)

Saw sumthin dif in Dad & no kno how expres, but recc
3=Dog want B notic, sokn 2 & want 2B touched

& 1quikest way fam 2disintegrat ea get involv do own
thing & all go seprat way=Ex C Burnet & hus/wif work
(Illus girl got preg in ordr 2hav someone 2 luv)
Sad isnt it?, but mor typic 2day than want 2 realiz &
all cuz we 2busy earn liv, go seprat way & wondr fail
(Woman who came 4 counsel told of dog want 2B notic,
want 2B spokn 2, & want 2B touch & satisfy walk way,

she sed=My husband nevr notic me,nevr spok 2 me, &
nevr touched me

2day mayB mothr day 4U,but 2 me it mor than tha'
2day a day I Bliev need 2 lk our homs & famlys
resolv 2 do sumthin concret about them,as evidenc 2
G we mean busnes 4 Him

Join hand fam membr & hold as we join in prayr
If no fam here jus pretend reach out & grasp hand
in mind eye & let us hold hands togethr B4 G.

Let us rise & turn our livs & famlys over 2 God

Scripture: Gen 19:12-28; Texts: 19:14B, 26; More Unhealthy Roots

SUMONE ASK QUEST=IF U SHOOK UR FAMLY TREE, WAT WUD FAL OUT???
NOTHR PERSON SED=SHAK ANY FAMLY TREE & A FEW NUTS WIL FALL
THER PROB ANY FAMLY TREE ANCESTRS WE NO LIK 2CLAIM AS OURS
NOT 2MANY US HAV ONE CUD CLAIM AS LIESIZ SALT SHAKR

BUT LOT CUD & CUD ALSO CALIM HAD CLOS RELTIVS WHO DY BCUZ
THEY 2STUBORN ~~XXXX~~ & WORLDLY 2FLEE TH/DESTRUCTIN 2CUM
BUT B4 LUK THIS SCRIP & DISCUSS LET ME SHAR W/U BOUT SOD/GOM
THER THOZ SAY IT NEVR TUK PLAC,OR IT NOT LIK BIBL SAY
THEZ R SO CAL -EXPERTS - AN EXPERT IS SUMONE WHO HAS TRAVLED
MOR THAN 50MILES 2SPK ON A GIVN SUBJECT
G HAS WAY OF DEAL W/EXPERTS & IN RECENT PAST HAS REVEAL IN ARCH
2PRUV HIS WORD

1924 DR. WM ALBRIGHT, ONE MOS NOTD ARCH DISCOVER SW END DED SEA
CIVILIZATIN END ABRUP ARND 2000 BC

THEY FND UNDR MT USDOM STRATUM SALT APROX 150 FT THIK

ABUV THIS STRATUM MARL, MIX W/FRRE SULPHUR

THER WAS ABUNDANC OF BITUMEN OR PITCH IN SOIL SODOM/GOMORRAI
AT PROPR TIM, G IGNIT GASES GIVN CFG & RESULT EXPL THRU HOT SULPH
SALT, BITUMEN IN 2AIR & LITRLY RAIN FIRE/BRIMSTONE

& ACORD ARCHS MANY PILLARS SALT FND AROUND DED SEA

THIS SCRIP TEL US THIS, BUT ALSO INFL LOT HAD ON FAMLY
VS 14=HE TOLD THEM

VS 14B=THEY NO TAK SERIOUSLY, PERHAP BCUZ PAST ACTINS THIS WICKD
PLACE

VSS 15-17

VSS 18-20=LOT BARGINS W/ANGELS

VSS 21-22=PERMISSIN 2GO 2ZOAR

VSS 23-25=GOD DUZ WAT HE SED WUD DO

VS 26=LOT'S WIFE DISOBEYS & IS PUNISHD FOR IT

NO KNO ALL CIRCUMS, BUT DO KNO LOT SET DWN SUM UNHEALTHY ROOTS

FR HIS FAMLY & NOW REAPS TH/REWARD OF IT

CRUZ GUD LOCKING LAND 2PUT DWN ROOTS & PROB EVIL EVN THEN

LETS LK THIS FROM PRESENT DAY LIF

(EXPL DAN QUAYLE & HASSL OVR FAMLY VALUES & LAFFD AT)

(ILUS WOMN GEO SWEETING & TEL OF DOG)

SHE SED TH 1ST THING DOG WANTED= 2B NOTICED

(ILUS BOY, MC & WRONG ANSRS)

HIS MOTHR 2HIM WAS NOTICED - 2DAY SET ASID JUS 4THAT

NOTHING WRONG, BUT SHUD 2DAY B ONLY DAY NOTICE MOTHR???

THER THOZ EXPEC & IF U NEVR NOTIC, READ DEAR ABBY & C COMPLAINTS

FR/SUM MOTHR WHO NOT NOTICED

2ND=DOG WANTED 2B SPOKEN TO

RECOGNITIN IN NOTHR WAY

(ILUS WOMAN HAV BAD DAY & HUSBAND/CHILDRN SHO THER LUV)

THIS UNSPOKN RECOGNITIN SHUD PAS TWEEN ALL MEMBRS FAMLY

WEN LAS TIM DID ~~XXXX~~ SUMTH UNASK STRICTLY OUT OF LUV???

ACTINS SPK LOUDR THAN WORDS & CANDY FLOWRS 2DAY R NICE, BUT

HOW BOUT REST OF YR???

(ILUS LITTL GIRL & OBBERVATIN BOUT PEOP)

MUS HAV NOTIC SUMTH DIF BOUT DAD & SHE RECOGNIZ IT

3RD=WOMAN SAY DOG WANTED 2B TOUCHED

2DAY FAMLY GO ALL DIF DIRECTINS & NOBODY TOUCHES TH/OTHR LVS

(1X) AMPL CAROL BURNET SHO & HUS/WIF WORK DIF SHIFTS, NO SPK ETC)

S A REALTY WHETHR WANT BLIEV OR NOT

(ILUS GIRL GOT PREG 2HAV SUMONE 2LUV)

SAD?? ALL BCUZ WE 2BUSY ERN LIV, GO SEP WAYS & WONDR WHER FAILED

WOMAN SED BOUT DOG & THEN BOUT HUSBAND

2DAY MAYB MOTHR DAY 2U, BUT 2ME IT MOR THAN THAT

2DAY IS DAY WE SHUD LK OUR FAMLYS & HOMES & RESOLV 2DU SUMTH

2MAK THEM BETTR

(ASK JOIN HANDS AS FAMLYS, FREINDS & PRAY 2GETHR)

"More Unhealthy Roots"

Scripture: Genesis 19:12-28

exts: Genesis 19:14b, 26

Someone once asked the question, "If you shook your family tree, what would fall out?" Perhaps we may have never thought too much of our particular family trees and perhaps we have never really wanted to trace our roots because of what we might find. But I would venture to say that none of us could claim to have an ancestor who could pass for a life size salt shaker. Nor would we want to claim to have ancestors who perished because they were too worldly and stubborn to flee from the destruction of their part of the world.

But this is exactly what took place in the life of Lot and his family. Last week we spoke of the roots that were implanted into his life and the life of his family. This morning I would like to look a little further at the roots which involved he and his wife.

But first I would like to lay to rest several of the stupid arguments which have been raised regarding the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. We can read and hear from different so called experts, (and do you know what an expert is?) It is a man who has traveled more than 50 miles to speak on a given subject. But so called, "Experts" tell us that it is absolutely impossible for the two cities to be destroyed as the Bible has said so. But God has a miraculous way of dealing with experts and many times in the recent past He has used the science of Archaeology to prove His Word. In 1924 Dr. William Albright, perhaps one of the most noted Archaeologists, discovered at the Southeast end of the Dead Sea, evidence that the civilization there had ended abruptly about 2000 BC. This same expedition found under Mt. Usdom which is a mountain near there, a stratum of salt approximately 150 feet thick, and above this stratum is a stratum of marl, mingled with free sulphur. There was also an abundance of Bitumen, or pitch ~~xxxxxxx~~ in the soil of Sodom and Gomorrah. So ~~when the~~ ^{at the} ~~xxxxxxx~~ proper time God ignited the gases given off and the resulting explosion threw hot sulphur, salt, and bitumen into the air and literally rained, "Fire and brimstone." And also according to archaeologists, there are many pillars

of salt to be found around the Dead Sea. This destruction of these two cities in this manner was a portion of what we read as Scripture. But there is also the evidence of the influence Lot must have had upon his own family as ~~shown~~ shown in two of these scripture verses.

We read of the angels telling Lot to tell his family to come out of the city for it was to be destroyed. In the 14th verse we read that he did just that. He spoke to his sons-in law and told them, "Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city." But they paid him no attention and acted as though he were joking. The indication here is that they were unwilling to believe him and take him seriously. Perhaps ~~many~~ many of his past actions of going along with the status-quo and making no waves, led them to believe that he was merely playing a joke on them. But whatever the case they ignored him and perished because of it.

The second point has to do with Lot's wife. The angel instructed them in the 15th verse to escape and to not look behind. Lot requested being able to go to Zoar and was given permission. But as he and his wife and daughters traveled away from Sodom, his wife looked back in defiance of what they had been instructed to do and she was turned into a pillar of salt. We do not know all of the circumstances, but we do know that his wife must have been influenced by him to do her own thing and for it she perished. In both of these instances we see the influence of the roots Lot had planted in their individual lives. The influence had to be unhealthy roots which caused the downfall of several members of his family.

A woman came to see Dr. Sweeting the President of Moody Bible Institute for counseling. She informed him that she had decided to divorce her husband. She told him that she had a dog at home and when she came home the dog met her at the door. All the dog wanted was three things. She said he would stand and wag his tail. This showed that he wanted to be noticed.

This was the first thing the dog wanted, "To be noticed." How trivial, but is it?

(Illustration of boy and MC asking questions and getting wrong answers; George Washington/God; Most important woman/Mom).

Here was a lad who knew what was important. His mother was noticed. But how do we notice Mother? We set aside a day in May in which everyone tries to let the world, or at least the community around them, ^{KNOW} how much they love their mother. This is done by flowers, and a dinner at a restaurant and presents and so on. Unfortunately many mothers not only expect this, but are hurt if the day is not observed to their satisfaction. In a week or so you will ~~see these people~~ read about these people in Dear Abby. If you read her last week you would have noted that she said most mothers do not want things which cost money all they want is something which comes from the heart. What more could come from the heart than to notice her the other days of the year? I think we ~~xx~~ should abolish this stupid day and concentrate our efforts and our resources in getting our families back in order.

The woman who came for counseling said that her dog wagged his tail and when he was noticed, then he wanted to be spoken to.

Here once again is the need for recognition in yet another way.

(Illustration of woman having bad day and husband and children showing love).

This is a good example of the unspoken recognition which needs to pass between all members of the family. When was the last time you did something for your husband, or wife, or children which was done ~~not~~ ^{for} strictly unselfish or unasked for purposes? We say that "Actions speak louder than words," and this is also true within the family structure. A little girl making an observation about people had this to say:

(Illustration of People by a little girl).

~~Quick~~ From this it is quite evident that she had observed that there was something special and idfferent about her dad. She didn't know quite how to express it, but at least she was giving recognition to him and what he meant to her.

The woman with the dog said the third thing the dog wanted was to be touched.

One of the quickest ways for the family to disintegrate in today's society is for each member to get so involved in doing their own thing that the family is

never completely together at any one given time. The Carol Burnett show had several skits about this depicting the husband coming home from midnight shift, and his wife getting ready to leave for work. Although it was humorous, the sad thing is that it is a reality in too many of our homes today, and because of it the families are falling apart.

(Illustration of girl who got pregnant to have someone to love).

Isn't this sad? But this is more typical today than we want to recognize, and it's all because we are too busy earning our livings, going our separate ways, and then wondering where we have failed.

The woman who came for counseling who told of the three things the dog wanted, said, "all he wanted was to ~~be noticed, to be spoken to, and to be touched.~~ When I did all three the dog was satisfied and walked away. My husband never noticed me, never spoke to me, and never touched me."

Today might be Mother's Day to you, but to me it is more than that. Today is the day when I believe we need to look at our homes and our families and resolve to do something concrete as evidence that you are serious about your life before God. If you care to join me I would ask you to take hold of the hand of a member of your family if possible and hold it as we join in prayer. You may want to have your whole family join with you at the altar and you are free to do that. If your family is out of town you can still pretend that you are holding their hands before God. For those of you who wish to join with me, let us rise, and pray for God's direction in our lives and homes and families.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Building Dedication Sunday May 20, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Beth Feder, Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Pastorale" Guilman
*Processional Hymn 324 "Christ is made the sure Foundation"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Lord God, our Saviour, you have been faithful in your promise to deliver us from the guilt of our sins, and make us acceptable to you and your kingdom. But too often I have not been faithful in following my promise to obey your will, and I have not loved my neighbors and enemies. I humbly ask forgiveness, Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
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Announcements
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Anthem: "Christ is made the sure Foundation" Wood
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Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "The Lord my Shepherd" Young
Anthem: "Bless This House" Brahe
Scripture: Ezra 3:8-13
Sermon: "CHEERS OR TEARS?"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 323 "Glorious things of thee are spoken"

INSTALL M/D DIEFFENBERGER AS ELDER

*Benediction

*Postlude "Now Thank we all our God" Karg-Elert
- - - - - *Congregation Standing - - - - -
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by The Robert Tait Family to the Glory of God.
Serving as Ushers today are: *Rob Vinroe, Randy Dellen, Bob Dellen and Gordon Kennedy
Nursery will be provided today by Dru Rensel and Patty McWilliams.
Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will greet the Congregation and Visitors at the door this morning.
Hospitalized - Mrs. Elsie Kornrumpf
Bill Thompson and Roy Andrews will be visiting the Hospital this week.
TODAY - 2:00-3:00 P.M. - DEDICATION SERVICE and open house of our new multi-purpose building. The corner stone will be laid. Entertainment by Master's Road Crew (Gospel Singers) and Mrs. Marian Heaton and Leanne Heaton. Cookies, punch and coffee will be served afterwards.
Andrew Muvowo from Zambia will be in the Butler Area May 22-28. He will be preaching at our Church this coming Sunday.
Early Service will be starting the first of June.
Church School will be at 9:00 and Morning Worship at 10:00 A.M.
All registration forms for Vacation Bible School should be in by next Sunday. Material has to be purchased and we would like to know just how many to count on. *COOKIES CHAIRS NANTYBEX*
IF YOU HAVE ANY PICTURES THAT WERE TAKEN DURING THE BUILDING OF OUR NEW BUILDING - PLEASE BRING THEM IN WITH YOU TO THE DEDICATION SERVICE.
Sun. - 6-7 - Jr. High Fellowship
Sun. 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Mon. 7:30 - Fidelity Bible Class Meeting.
Sunday School Teachers and Board of Christian Education will meet Wed. - May 23rd at 7:30 (This Wed.)
We need men to help set up tables and chairs for the service this afternoon. Chairs will be set up right after the service.
Our sincere sympathy to family and friends of Homer Beatty who passed away last week end.

"Cheers Or Tears?"

Scripture: Ezra 3:8-13; Teaxt: Ezra 3:13

(Illustration ship off coast Maine, candle window)
ly candl glo darknes & yet lite brot, Cheers/Tears
Sumwat lik plite Isites; dispers many land, many Babyl
dream return homeland & spark lite burn harts, liv
literally wait 4day wen cud B Jerus agin
So was party return Jeru & Bgin rebild templ
work progres slow & scrip tel 80yrs aftr 1st grp
Ezra priest & 1 ldrs grp & yr =457 BC
vs 8=2nd yr nu arriv, May, rainy seasn ovr & cud work
vs 10=found. laid & priests vestments & instruments
praise G lik Dav set 4th
vs 11=sang responsively part Ps 136
vs 11b=made are, ring sound
vs 12=old men saw 1st Templ & remem & weep othr shout
vs 13=hard disting Btween shouts & Weeping
Any ventur lik this 2 sides & mus read Btween lines
1 say=Hav nice, no bothr, hav gods here & no need Jeru
othr say=hav dream & cry 2 G ask 4 guidanc ea day
2day specil day 4 U & me we mark day set apart
Multi-purp bldg G giv 2 our care
4 many yr jus spark burn that cud add 2 SS & ch facili
Many say=why, things fin way R now, dont bothr me
Devious method=anonymous lettr, phone calls undermir
But ther thoz pray that all catch vision & kno it
& mix also wer tears 4thoz who cal self G's peop & no
want 2C Church furthr & grow
only 1 persn kno; warm summr day severl yr B4 any
this realty, man nelt gras & claim ground 4 Lord 2do
as He want & 2day U C anser
did it & no 1 else
Same man nelt wen wall up & pray, thank G, claim bldg
4 Him & work, in tears joy.
2day need 2B prais, rejoic 2 G 4 all He dun
But also need weep 4thoz no catch vision G want
That Bldg, this bldg can no measur dolar/cents,
mus measur wat G want us 2do with wat givn us
As sit, stan we grow; canot tel, but cels multiply etc
If not so wud B ded,
Yet how many daily seek GR0W as G want?
nurtur pet peev, argumen wat Ch shud B do & no do
But how many actual seek put hands G?
(Illus ded church & revival)=Js sed Jn 4:35b-38
Which wil B 4U? Wil B CHEERA 2C work L B carry on by
self & rest conggeg? Or will B TEARS Bcuz thing no B
dur ay U want 2B dun? Lets unite & put G 1st everthi
Lets prais with CHEERS as He unfol marvels b4 eyes

"Cheers Or Tears?"

Scripture: Ezra 3:8-13

Text: Ezra 3:13

(Illustration of Guiding Light, ship off coast of Maine, and candle in window)
Only a candle glowing in the darkness and yet its light brought "Cheers" and most likely "Tears."

This is somewhat like the plight of the Israelites. They were dispersed to many other lands. A group of them were living in exile in Babylon. They had dreamed of returning to their homeland and that spark of a light burned in the hearts and lives of many of them. They were literally living for the day when they could be in Jerusalem again.

So it was that a party of them returned to Jerusalem to begin rebuilding the Temple. Work had progressed slowly and the portion of Scripture we read this morning tells us of a period of time approximately 80 years after the first party had arrived and begun work. Ezra was a priest, and he was one of the leaders of this group. The year was 457 B.C. We read this event took place in the second year after this group had arrived and it took place in the second month. This would have meant that it was May. The rainy season would be over and they could set about the work they so earnestly desired to do.

They went to work with a zeal inspired of getting their people back to the worship of Almighty God. So it was that when the foundation was laid they had the priests assembled in their vestments and the musical instruments were brought out, and they began to sing and praise the Lord, as David had instructed them to do.

In the 11th verse we read that they sang responsively, and what they sang was a portion of the 136th Psalm. But more importantly they made the surrounding area ring with their shouts of joy because the foundation had been finally laid,

11b. But many of these people were old and had seen the first Temple and they cried because they remembered the days of that glorious edifice.

But there was mixture of both tears and cheers. So much so, that it was diffi-

cult to distinguish between the noise of cherring, and the noise of weeping.

this we see the happiness of the people that the period of darkness was coming to an end and what was once only a wisp of a light was now beginning to burn so much more brightly.

But hidden within this episode are events that are not mentioned in this Scripture. Although what we read is a happy occasion which caused the mixed emotions we also need to read between the lines and search for what also must have taken place. In any venture of this sort there are always two sides involved. The people of Israel had taken those sides long before they ever left the confines of Babylon. There was a certain element who were satisfied with things as they were. "Why make waves," was their philosophy. "We have it rather nice living in exile like this. Why must we ~~xxxx~~ go back to Jerusalem and worship God? These people have gods we can worship and life is just fine the way it is. Don't bother me with this nonsense."

Then there were the others who dreamed and dreamed of the day they could return to their homeland and see the Temple of the Lord begin to take shape. And they must have cried tears to God as they asked for His guidance each day. Today is a special day for us. Today we are marking ~~a~~ day in which we set apart that which God has given to our care, our Multi-purpose building. For many years there was a spark glowing, only a spark which was a dream that we could add to and improve our facilities for Sunday School and church. But there were many who said, "Why? ~~Butter~~, things are just fine the way they are now. We don't want to be bothered." ~~But there were those who were praying and crying out to God for this growth to take place not only physically, but in the hearts and lives of other people.~~ There were several devious methods used to undermine any attempt at growth. These took the form of anonymous letters, to phone calls to discourage all of this. But there were those who were praying not only for this growth, but that all of the congregation could ^{CATCH} ~~see~~ the vision and know it. And mixed in this were tears that those who called themselves the people of God could not, or would not want to see the church furthered.

There is only one other person here this morning who knows that on a quiet summer afternoon several years ago, before any of this became a reality, a man knelt in that lot in the grass and claimed that piece of ground for the Lord as His to do with as He chose fit to do. And there you see today the Lord's answer to that prayer. And there isn't a person who can tell me that God didn't do it.

That same man knelt in that new building when the walls were erected and thanked God for His answers, and again claimed that building for Him and His work, with tears of joy.

Today
There needs to be rejoicing and the praising of God for all that He has done.

But there also needs to be weeping that not all can catch the vision which God wants for them. That building, nor this building, nor any other part of the church should ever be measured in dollars and cents. It should be measured by what God wants us to do with what He has given us. As you sit here this morning and as I stand here, we are growing. You cannot tell it, but in each of our bodies the dells are developing and multiplying and growing. If this were not so we would be dead. Yet, how many of us are daily seeking to grow as God wants us to? We nurture our own pet peeves, and pet arguments about what the church should be doing and should not be doing, but how many of us are actually seeking to put all of this in the hands of God?

(Illustration of dead church, dead child, and revival in dead church)

Jesus said in the 4th chapter of the Gospel of John, ~~xxx~~ Vss 35b to 38. Which will it be for you? Will it be "Cheers" to see the work of the Lord being carried on by yourself and the rest of the congregation? Or will it be "Tears" because things are not being done the way you want them to be done? Let us join together in striving to grow as God wants us to grow and heal the wounds that have drawn us apart for too long. Let us unite in putting God first in everything and then ~~walk~~ praise Him with our "Cheers" as He unfolds His marvels before our eyes.

Building Dedication Service May 20, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Music Director

DEDICATION SERVICE 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.
Prelude Music: Mrs. Kay Morris
Introductions: Mr. Richard Mangel, President of
the Congregation
Special Music: The Master's Road Crew
Cornerstone Laying: Mr. Harry Fry, Mr. Donald Kennedy
Rev. Ralph Link
Special Music: Leanne Heaton
Remarks: Mr. Donald Kennedy, Building Committee
Chairman
Special Music: Mrs. Robert Heaton
Dedication Address: Rev. Ralph C. Link
Dedication Prayer
Dedication Hymn: "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

This dedication is the climax of many prayers and dreams. The dream first started during the pastorate of Rev. Roy L. Frazier. A three floor annex was proposed, but never materialized. The dream never completely died, and after dismantling the former parsonage next door, purchasing the house and lot on the northside and the pattern shop, we had a total area of 100 ft. by 60 ft. of available property.

This dream finally started to become a reality under the ministry of Rev. Ralph C. Link. A Committee of 14 members (all volunteers) was formed under co-chairmen Harry Fry and Don Kennedy to look into the needs and plans for a new annex.

A congregational meeting was held in Sept. 1976 to present the proposed plans, and approval was made to enter into a contract with Fulton-Heath Architects.

At a meeting held a year later, the plans that consisted of a multi-purpose room with 21 ft. ceiling, restrooms, meeting room and kitchen on the 1st floor, a lounge, restrooms and classrooms on the 2nd floor were presented. No bids were received, but a vote was taken to start a fund drive. At the next meeting it was decided to send the plans back to the architect for revisions because of cost and to hire Paul Chase Associates to conduct a capitol fund drive.

A successful drive was completed, and on April 3, 1978 it was voted to accept the new plans that deleted the 2nd floor except the lounge, to accept the total bids of \$252,695. and to hire Joseph Hayden, General Contractor. On June 11, 1978, the grand breaking was held and construction began.

One hundred years ago the founders of this church had a vision and provided us with this church. We also had a vision, and with God's help we were able to fulfill our dream and provide this heritage for our children and grandchildren. We now dedicate this building to God and hope it will be used to further His kingdom.

"Room For All"

Texts: Lk2:7; Gen. 26:22

So as us herd or kno story birth Js Xp found Lk
(READ LK 2:7)

This evident thoz day & evn 2day no room 4 Lord
sad, but tru

No ar part Scrip & tie 2 2gethr

OT Isaac retracstep Fathr Ab & re-op wells fil by
enemies

As ope 1, neighbor peop fite ovr, & so ope nothr etc
finaly ope 1 & no mor fite (READ GEN 26:22)

REHOBOTH mean=enlargment, wide places, large room

Appropriate name wudn't U say?

Isaac say=vs 22b=this quit contras othr scrip,

1 no room & othr room & 2 spare

Lëssn 4us room 4all no matr wher R & mus seek B

fruitful & multiply with wat He givn us

if no do laps selfishnes & lk only our need, our
want, our desires

Insted, ministry need 2B 2 communtiy, & all thoz
around us

Many dreams bin dream bout partic bldg.

Hav seen it:

Cong dinner,

yng peop, Bib study, V ball, resfresh

funeral dinner

Good Friday youth breakfast & mesag Salvation

Thez only few cud B use 4

But mos import mus B 2 Glory of God

G giv it, & Blong 2 Him & canot claim 4 own

Duzn't Blong 2U, or 2me, it Blong 2Gog

t, last, always Blong 2 Almitiy God & in His name

we solemnly dedicate 2day

This REHOBOTH off SS of Butler

It our large place, or place of enlargment & may it
ever B used to Honor & Glorify God in all uses.

Dedication prayer.

"Room For All"

Text: Luke 2:7 & Gen. 26:22

I am sure that most of us here today have known or heard the story relating the birth of Jesus Christ as found in Luke's Gospel. From that episode we read one verse. (Read verse 7). This particular verse tells of something that was not only evident in those days, but also in our present day and age. There are those who have absolutely no room in their lives for the Lord. This is sad, but true.

But I would like to share another part of Scripture with you and then tie the two together. In the Old Testament Book of Genesis we read of Isaac retracing some of the steps of his father Abraham and re-opening the wells that their enemies had closed. But as they opened each one, the people in that area fought them for the well, so Isaac and his men moved on and dug ~~xxx~~ another well, and another until finally they dug one last well and there was no more fighting for it. So in Genesis 26:22 we read, (read this). The name Rehoboth means=enlargement, wide places, large room. Rather an appropriate name for this building, wouldn't you say? But ~~xxx~~ Isaac said, "Now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land." This is quite a contrast to the other portion of Scripture which points out there was no room, and here there is room and to spare.

The lesson for us is that the Lord has made room for all of us no matter where we are, and we must seek to be fruitful with what He has given us. If we do not we lapse into selfishness and we tend to look only at our needs, our wants, our desires. Instead, we need to see that our ministry wherever we find ourselves is not just to ourselves, but to the community, and all those around us.

Many dreams have been dreamed about this particular building. Thus far I have seen it crowded with young people on a Sunday evening having Bible study in that meeting room, and then having fun playing volley ball, followed by refreshments. I have seen our congregation eating together and sharing the fellowship that should be ours as a part of the Family of God. I have seen several groups of

people eating together here following the funeral of a loved one. They could had rest and comfort here without bothering to clean up afterwards and they could spend the time again in fellowship. I have seen this room filled with young people on Good Friday morning hearing the message of Salvation. These are only a few of the uses this building may be used for. But most importantly, this building must and should be used to the Glory of God. It is God who has given it, and it God ~~xxx~~ to whom it belongs for us to claim it as our own is to defeat the whole purpose of its existence. It doesn't belong to you, or to me. It belongs, first, last and always to Almighty God and in His Name we do solemnly dedicate it today. This is the Rehoboth on this South Side of Butler. It is our large place, or place of enlargement and may it ever be used to Honor and Glorify God in all of its uses.

Let us join in a prayer of dedication.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Seventh Sunday in Eastertide May 27, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris Organist
Mrs. Ginger Harbison and Mr. Lloyd Link
Youth Choir Directors
Mr. Andrew Muwowa Guest Speaker
Baptism - Acolyte

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Psalm Nineteen" Marcello
*Processional Hymn 440 "God of our fathers"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Almighty God, who didst lead
our fathers to these shores that they might lay here
the foundations of civil and religious liberty, bless
to us the glorious heritage of faith and freedom
which we have received from them. Preserve thou the
nation which was established by their prayers, their
heroic deeds, and their sacrifices. Help us to be
true to the great ideals for which they stood, and may
our country ever be the home of justice, liberty, and
true brotherhood. Defend it against every peril, and
may it be increasingly a blessing to all the world. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 441 "My country, 'tis of thee"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Choral" Peeters
H Baptism - Jennifer Leigh Vensel born March 28, 1979
Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Vensel.

Anthem: "Happiness is the Lord" Stanphill
Sung by the Youth Choir
Scripture: Hebrews 13:5-15
Sermon: "JESUS, UNCHANGING"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 443 "O beautiful for spacious
skies"
*Benediction
*Postlude "My Country 'Tis of Thee" Morris
----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Clyde and Millie Wachsmuth in loving memory of
"Parents"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don
Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Wayne Fencil
and Debby Johnston.
The attendance for the past two Sundays were: 203; 208.
We wish to thank Mr. Andrew Muwowa for being with us
and bringing us a special message today.
Deacon and Mrs. Art Carney will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this morning.
Today all registration forms should be in for Vacation
Bible School. They would like to know so material
can be ordered. There are additional registration
forms in the Narthex - please fill out and return to
the office today. Vacation Bible School will be from
7:00-9:00 P.M. June 11-14 and June 18-21. ADULT BAPTISM
If you have a Youth graduating please leave Bea know
in the office - if you have not already done so.
Harry Fry and Harry Burns will be visiting the Hospital
this coming week.
There will be no Youth Meetings this evening due to
the Holiday Weekend.
Early Service will start next week - Church School at
9:00 and Morning Worship at 10:00 A.M.
Coming Events -
June 10 - Recognition of Seniors
June 24 - Church In the Park and Family Picnic
following.
Our sincere sympathy to Robert Dellen Family in the
loss of Bob's "Father"
ALSO RAYMOND HENRICHSON & FAMILY LOSS OF
GRAND MOTHER.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Pentecost (Whitsunday) June 3, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Karen Pfabe and Helen Hilliard - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.
Prelude "Rhosymedre" Ralph Vaughan-Williams
*Processional Hymn No. 184 "All hail the power of Jesus'
name"

*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Lord God, our Saviour, you have
been faithful in your promise to deliver us from the
guilt of our sins, and make us acceptable to you and
your kingdom. But too often I have not been faithful
in following my promise to obey your will, and I have
not loved my neighbors and enemies. I humbly ask
forgiveness, Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Solo "Come Holy Spirit" Gaither Sung by Lloyd Link
Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering
Offertory Aria in F Major Handel
Anthem: "I Love to Tell the Story" Rol Thompson
Saxophone

Scripture: Acts 2:32-47
Sermon: "LOOK AT THE FLIP SIDE"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Processional Hymn No. 193 "Spirit of God, descend upon
my heart"

*Benediction
*Postlude "Suite Gothique" Boellmann
- - - - - *Congregation Standing - - - - -
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mrs. Ann Williams for Husband - "Woody" in his memory.
Serving as Ushers today are: *Charles Penar,
Dan Bosko and Robert Knauer
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Davis will greet the Congregation at
the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Pauline Fencil
and JoAnn Nagy
Hospitalized: Mrs. Zoa Morrison - BCMH - OUT (HAROLD
HAW O BACK
MRS KANAKUJIT)
Mr. Guy Armstrong suffered a heart attack -
North Birch Medical Center, 2835 North Ocean Blvd.
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33308.
Those visiting the Hospital this week: Art Carney
and Rod Rensel.

Tonight 6-7 - Jr. Youth Fellowship
Tonight 7-9 - Youth Fellowship
Wed. - 7:30 - Council Meeting
Thurs. - Newsletter will be published - please have
all material in by Wed.
Fri. - 8:00 - Business meeting of the ARC Class at
Harry Fry's - (Members only)

Next Sunday - Recognition of Seniors
Vacation Bible School 11-14 - from 7-9 P.M. Youth and
Adults; also 18-21 - Same time schedule.
June 24 - Church in the Park and Family Picnic
Our sincere sympathy to Family and Friends of Mrs.
Sadie Barnhart who passed away Monday evening May 29.

A Prayer for the Day

As you awaken at dawn to meet the new day,
Do you slip out of bed and remember to pray?
Dear Lord, help us to use this day you have given
To do the things pleasing to you up in heaven.
To make someone happy, to do a good deed;
Have a smile for the lonely, and sense of their need.
We ask your forgiveness if we fail to say,
Thank you, Dear Lord, and have Thine own way. Amen.

- - - - -

"Look At The Flip Side!"

Scrip: Acts 2:32-47; Text: Acts 2:39

Musical & dif Between country & ours in music

His Rhythm; Ours=Proper Tone, Harmony

Examp wed recept tune thr, play & all nois, wish rhytl
Music co big busnes mas produc record & select Hits
& R hit, mus co's & artist receiv big money

4 2day I use this compar in lk mesag this morn

As lk Scrip C here record play early Ch & big hit

30 AD, Sun exact 50day aftr East & resur Js Xp

Discips Uppr Room & H Sp cum dramtic way & speak to
Sum sneer & mock & say=Drunk; Peter say NO & giv sermon
Had told lif, minis Js Xp, Rais from ded

vs 34-35=Dav refr 2 Js speak 2 him ? then

vs 36=giv punch line & so mov they say Wat Shall Do?

vs 38=anser expl Bapt no 4-4givnes sin & FOR mean

Bcuz of sin; Bap outward sine repent/4givnes

& this why Watr Bap=Blievr Bap by immersion

Vs 38B=wat hap wen accept Xp=H Sp promis & hap 2all

Blievr & no mean mus speak tongues

Vs 39=prom 2all Blievr, tongues mayB, but not neces

Vs 41=Watr Bap, & 3000 add 2 church but no end here

vs 47= G do this & real end is shown in 17:6=

Jew Authorty sot arres Paul & Silas, got Jason &

say=Vs 6=literal seem world upside dwn

But as all record mus Look At The Flip Side

4-300yr Ch gro 1 on 1 & Rom Authorty want stamp out

Emp Constantine & biges hoax perptrat=H Rom Empir

1day pagan, nex Xpian do nothing 4it; clergy do wat wan

Thus record was Hit, now play flip side & it flop

H Sp 1nce powr of Ch, now talk bout, explain & fire

at was Pentecost only spark wat shud bin flame

(Illus King Edward England 36 & man hold wire)

This wat wrong ch up 2-2day our age=line brok Btween

G & us & U&I shud pik up wire & compl connection

This mean U & I B connect tween G & othr peop

But let preachr do it, he paid, we not

Actual truth is 2fold challeng I giv 2 U 2day & every

man, woman, child I wud lik 2C result nex week

1st challeng=Share wat we hav (Illus Criswell & Boy)

How many U invit? How many meet scul, mil, neighb?

" " " wil 2ask sum1 & get here nex wk? No need

all anser, jus bring & we shar Gospl & let H Sp work

2nd thing=Love peop (Illus Criswell, prost & litl boy)

How many U guilty no luv? How many lk dwn, divorc,

alcy, prob peop? Chis need challeng & I challeng U

2nd y luv sum1 lik this & bring 2ch nex wk How many

wil 2 accept challeng & C result nex wk? No stay way &

no do; all thoz peop roun us want luv, invit & let us

mak connect

"Look At The Flip Side!"

Scripture: Acts 2:32-47

Text: Acts 2:47 39

One of the things which Andrew Muwowa was able to share with the people at Bethany and the students in school was the difference between music in his country and ours. It is unfortunate that he could not have given all of us this information. He explains that in his country they place the emphasis on ~~xylophone~~ rhythm, whereas we place the emphasis on proper tone. He emphasizes this by pointing out how we tune our guitars and instruments to get the tone just right. Shirley and I attended a wedding reception and the musical group which was to play, literally tuned their guitars, drums and other noisemakers for an hour. But when they started to play it was nothing but noise and we felt they wasted an hour getting the proper tone. Within minutes, we wished they had settled for rhythm and we left. But the music industry has become big business since the mass production of records has taken place. Part of this has been due to the wise selection of a tune which is promoted as being a hit. Most often that tune has become a hit and the record company along with the recording artists receive large sums of money from producing these hits time after time. I would like to use this comparison in looking at our message for today.

As we look at the portion of Scripture we used this morning, we can see that here we have a record ~~track~~ being played about the early church and it was very definitely a hit. The year was 30 A.D., it was a Sunday exactly 50 days after Easter, or the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Disciples were assembled in the Upper Room and the Holy Spirit came to them in a very visible and dramatic way and they were able to communicate the Gospel to everyone there in their own particular language so it was ~~made~~ clearly understood.

But there were some standing by who sneered and mocked and attributed all of this to their being drunk. But Peter arose and began to preach a sermon and in particular he was addressing the Jews. He had shared with them the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and we picked this Scripture up at the point where Peter is speaking of Jesus being raised from the dead. He also points out that David referred to Jesus as speaking to him, vs ³⁴⁻³⁵ ~~34-35~~. Then he gives them the punch line in vs ~~37~~ 36, and they are so moved by it they ask, "What shall we do?" Peter answers them, (vs 38, and explain that Baptism does not give the forgiveness of sins, and the word "for" means, "Because of sin." ~~Baptism is not~~ Water Baptism, or Believers Baptism, is the outward sign of repentance and forgiveness of sins. This is why adults or older children are baptized by immersion.)

But Peter gives them the promise of what will take place when a they accept

Christ as their Saviour, (vs 38b). He tells that this promise is to any and all who will come to Christ and believe, (vs 39). This promise is that God's Holy Spirit will come into the heart and life of all who trust Christ. This doesn't mean that everyone who accepts Christ is going to speak in tongues, or must speak in tongues to have the Holy Spirit as some try to teach. This may take place and be legitimate. But the promise is merely the Gift of the Holy Spirit in that ~~life~~ person's life.

And then we see that those who heard and believed and accepted Christ were baptized, and this means Water Baptism, not Spirit Baptism as some strive to prove, and there were 3000 people added to the church that day. But it didn't end here ~~for~~ for we read in the 47th verse, (read). And here is the record as God played it for all the world to see. The actual ending of the first side is recorded in the 17th chapter and the 6th verse. The Jewish authorities had sought to arrest Paul and Silas as they preached in Thessalonica. So they surrounded the house of Jason where they thought they were staying and when they did not find Paul and Silas they arrested instead, Jason. And this is what they said about the disciples, "These that have turned the world upside down have come here also.", vs 6b. They had created such a stir and such an impact that it literally seemed like they had turned the world upside down.

But as in all records there is another side with what might be another hit, and so we need to "Look At The Flip Side." But when we look at that ~~side~~ side we see that ~~year~~ for 300 years the church flourished and grew and it was done by one person sharing his faith with another person. On a one to one basis. And just like the Jewish authorities sought to stamp it out, so did the Roman Emperors and the church and its people were persecuted for their faith. Until Constantine assumed control of the Roman Empire and then he perpetrated the biggest hoax that ever was done in the name of ~~religion~~ Christianity. He decreed that every person with the Roman Empire was now automatically a Christian and it became the Holy Roman Empire. The authority for the oversight of these people then rested in the hands of the select few, the clergy and here is where

the church began to get away from doing what it was supposed to do. Literally thousands of people who were one day pagans, were now accepted as Christians and they didn't have to do anything to become a Christian except to be a member of the Roman Empire. Thus, the record that had been a big hit up to this time was now playing the flip side which was a flop.

The Holy Spirit which was the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to His disciples was now a thing to be pondered and thought about and to try to explain to the believers. The fire that was Pentecost now became only a spark in what should have been a vital and moving organism created by God.

(Illustration of speech of King Edward in 1956 going through one man)

This is what has been and is wrong with the church up to our own day and age. The line is broken between us and God and it is demanding that you and I pick up the end of that wire and let God's Holy Spirit complete the connection by going through and out of us to other people. But it is much easier for everyone to sit back and say let the preacher do it, that's what we hired him for. But the actual truth is that if you call yourself a Christian you need to be working at your faith in two different directions and I would like to challenge every man, woman, and boy and girl here this morning to do something about it this week.

The first thing we need to be about is to share what we have.

(Illustration of Dr. Crisswell and boy in trouble and never invited to Church)

How many people have you invited at any time in your Christian life to come to Church and Sunday School with you? How many boys and girls, and men and women surround you in School, in the mill, in your neighborhood, and how many have you invited? I challenge each of you this week to invite at least one person to come with you next Sunday. How many of you are willing to do that? You may have a brother or sister or another relative that ~~xxxx~~ belongs to this church, but never bothers to come. How about inviting them to come and tell them that regardless what their gripe may be, all that we are doing here is striving to preach the Gospel and have a concern for their soul. ^{You may not have all of the answers, but you need not let this deter you from inviting them.} Just get them here and we will let the Holy Spirit work in their hearts and lives. But we must first do our part for this to take place.

The second thing we need to ~~be~~ do is to try to love people.

Illustration of ~~Five~~ Prostitute and little boy)

How many of us are guilty of this sin? We look at someone and we ostracize that person because he or she is divorced. Or he or she has had a problem of some sort and we are not going to let them forget it. The Church is for people, and we need to reach out in love to those who need as much of that love as we can possibly give. ~~xxxxxxx~~ I challenge each of you this coming week to not only invite some others to come to church and Sunday School with you, but to strive to love someone you may find hard to love. How many of you are willing to accept both of these challenges and then let's look at the results next week? This is what the church is all about. We need to seek to have ~~xxxx~~ the Holy Spirit become operative in each of our lives and we can do this if we begin to live and act as God wants us to. All of those lonely people around us are people that God wants us to bring to Him and we cannot do it until we make the connection ourselves between God and them. And we cannot begin to reach out to them unless we are willing to love them. May God lead and direct each of us this week that we may follow through on the challenge set before us, and let us expect God to work in their hearts and lives as He has in ours.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
First Sunday After Pentecost June, 10, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Karen Pfabe and Helen Hilliard - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.
Prelude "Processional in G" J. Stanley
*Processional Hymn No. 65 "This is my Father's World"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Most Merciful Father, like
the prodigal we come before thee to confess that we
have sinned and are no longer worthy to be called thy
children. Against thee we have rebelled. Yet in our
distant land thou through thy Spirit doth say to us,
"Come home." By that same Spirit make us clean, that
we may stand before thee once again to affirm our
sonship, through Christ our Lord. Amen"
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 207 "Jesus call us: o'er the tumult"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Water Music" Handel
Solo: "I Believe" Cyndie Sybert
Scripture: 2 Samuel 14:28-33
Sermon: "THE HOT CONNECTION"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
Hymn No. 211 "O Jesus, Thou art staNding"
*i ediction

*Postlude "Fantasy in A minor" Bach
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Ed McCormick in memory of Daisy and Raymond
Covert and Arthur Covert
Serving as Ushers today are: Wally Feder, John Snow,
Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel
Elder and Mrs. Paul Campbell will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Betty Carney
and Mrs. Diane Hollefreund
Attendance - May 27 - 182; June 3 - 176
Paul Campbell and Don Kingsley will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
➤ We wish to congratulate our Graduates and wish them
the best in anything they do.
➤ From Butler High School: Pricilla Botacchi, Randy Burns,
Chris Campbell, Gordon Kennedy, Dennis Master,
Shari McBride, JoAnn Nagy, Cheryl Snyder and
Bill Watterson.
➤ From Knoch High - Nancy Link
➤ From Community College - Lynn Bosko and Laurel Stauffer.
VOLUNTEERS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS are in dire need of help.
One or two hours a week is all that is needed. They
need help with driving and delivery and packagers.
Call Project Supervisor - Karen Albert 285-3815 or
Ann Williams 287-1430 if you can help.
➤ VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL starts Monday - thru Thurs.
of this week and next. Time is 7-9 - From ages
2 - 102 *ADULTS = BORN TO GROW*
➤ Reminders - Don't forget Church in the Park and Family
Picnic afterwards. June 24 - Church at 10:00 A.M.
➤ Hospitalized - Mr. Harold Sandbach.
DEDICATION TO OUR GRADUATES:
Use me Lord...
If I have a talent, Lord, whatever it may be,
Use that talent, Lord, to turn someone to Thee.
If I have ability, Lord, for some very special task,
Use that ability, Lord, to glorify Thee, I humbly ask.
If I have a special skill, Lord, point it out to me;
Help me to use this skill, Lord, in service unto Thee.
Many things you have given me, Lord: health and home
And loved ones dear....
Help me to give them all to Thee, Lord, and Serve Thee
year after year.

"The Hot Connection"

Scrip: 2 Sam 14:28-33; Text: 2 Sam. 14:31-32a

King Dav sis name ZERUIAH; 3 sons eldest Com Ch Army
(ab name: study contrasts; loyl, valiant folo ordr
(examp=Uriah)

On expedient do otherwis did so=examp, Gen Abner
did so 4 kil nephew Asahel, but keep from Com Ch)
Shud giv idea wat he was, but knu Dav & saw innr stru
in royl fam & decid do sumthin:

Dav go thru try tim Bcuz imorlty Bath, & G sed 12:11
This Bgun tak plac & compound daily: wif AHINOAM
som AMNON: wif MAACAH=ABSAOM, TAMAR (butiful dottr)
AMNON luv & rape & ABS vow he aveng violation sistr
Giv banquet & slay Amnon & exile, no C king David
Joab C & kno this & plot womn Tekoa fake story of
sonundr thret deth, but Dav C thru plot & C Joab Bhin
Dav relent tel Joab get Absalom from exile
2yr go by & Abs no permit C King: cal serv & send
Joab, he no cum; 2nd tim & no cum; set fire Barley
& Joab cum & ask why?; Abs tel Joab prob & resolv

1thing B cal by King, but nothr B cal by K Son
Similr 2us=peop stand 4 Joab; K is G; Son Js Xp

This list charactrs if want mak parabl

The cal of cors cum B4 K & surendr liv 2Him & liv4
quite oft K Son sumon thoz want ignor & go bout busne
We want go own way & so sumthin mus get us 2listen
(Illus teachr, bad boy, principl, spanking)

This wat Abs did, got atention Jaab & mesag cam thru
loud/clear=K's Son want 2 speak 2U

Quite oft peop liv carfree lif apart G & lk 2morro
2 entr fold & sumtim way G get atten advers/afflict
Evr had? Sed=O G, why happeng? Evr thot K Son cal
Mos peop don't & it only fate, coincid, freak happn
But this serios busnes U & I in, need all help can get
more importly=clock lif tick dwn & no dif age, ther
no guarante U wil C 2morro, & pas 2wkend prov this
Jun 1=deth Ted Scheifle; yestrday=Cas Armitage

neither knu last day & anser cal K Son

Sum U here this morn refus anser cal & had chanc
I Know; same old pitch & I herd B4

But wat duz tak mak posib 2respond? Is it fear of
friends, relatives, othr ch membs? ~~Shame~~ Shame?

Watevr resn need 2kno K Son cal lk lif, repent, acpt

It cal can revolutioniz Ur lif & no let any¹, anythin
mis that call.

It latr than think, now time & 2day opportun

If speak, anser B4 2late/mayB bakslid=correct, recom

H sp speak anser during sing last hymn; no embaras
step aisle & cum ^{ward} let ea anser watevr way G

lead.

"The Hot Connection"

Scripture: 2 Samuel 14:28-33

Text: 2 Samuel 14:31-32a

King David had a sister named Zeruiah. She had three sons, the oldest of which became Commander in Chief of David's army. His name was Joab. Joab, David's nephew was a study in contrasts. He was a loyal valiant man who obeyed the king's orders to the letter when it served the best interests of David and the kingdom. ~~xxxxxxx~~ A good example of this was the placing of Uriah in the front lines so that he could be killed as David had requested. It didn't matter to him what reason the king had for this action, he only did as he was told. But when his own best interests were in danger, he made the necessary moves to make sure ~~his~~ position was protected and so he took action even to go against the King's wishes. An example of this was the slaying of General Abner supposedly for slaying ~~his~~ Joab's nephew Asahel, but in reality to keep Abner from becoming Commander in Chief. This should give you an idea of what sort of man Joab was. But Joab also knew his Uncle David a lot better than some other people and so when he saw the inner struggles taking place within the royal family he decided that some action needed to be taken. At this particular time David was going through some rather hard times because of his lapse of immorality with Bathsheba. God had said ~~xxxxxxx recorded in xxxxx Samuel~~ given him a promise which was beginning to come to pass. This is recorded in 2 Samuel 12:11, (Read 11a). The evil within his own house had begun to take place and was being compounded what must have seemed almost daily. ~~David had xxx son named xxxxxxxx~~ To one of David's wives Ahinoam was born ~~xx~~ a son named Amnon. To another of his wives named Maacah was born Absalom, and Tamar. A ~~beautiful~~ very handsome son and a very beautiful daughter. Amnon fell in love with his half-sister and she became for him something that he absolutely had to have and possess. So he played sick and contrived to have her minister to his needs and in the process he raped her. For this Absalom vowed that he would avenge the violation of his sister Tamar and so he plots to get Amnon in a place where he can be

Amnon

slain. He has a banquet and at the banquet ~~Amnon~~ is slain. The King was angry
for what Amnon had done to Tamar, and he must have had very mixed emotions
about what Absalom did. Here the rape of his daughter was avenged, but it meant
the death of one of his sons. So what is he supposed to do?

Absalom recognizing the fact that he is not quite welcome in the King's household goes into self-imposed exile in Geshur.

Joab, being a part of the King's court knows the deep feelings that David has
for his son Absalom, ^{But he is also} ~~is~~ aware that because of Absalom being separated, and not
~~welcome in the court~~ being welcome in the court, there is an unnatural strain
which is making the lives of all of them tense. So knowing this he contrives to
get Absalom back into the good graces of the King. So he plots with a woman
from Tekoah, the hometown of the prophet Amos, and he concocts a story in which
he believes the king will have compassion on the woman and tell her her son is
freed from the threat upon his life. At this point she is to suggest the king
release his own son from exile. The woman carries out this plot and all goes
according to plan, but the king sees through it and identifies Joab as the one
behind it all. She confesses that the king has indeed figured this correctly
and David sends for Joab. He informs him that he is to go and bring Absalom
from exile as he sought to do.

Joab, completing his task fades into the background.
So Absalom comes home, but is not permitted into the king's presence. This goes
on for two years and Absalom is growing restless about being treated like some-
one who is not acceptable in his own house. So he calls a servant and says,
"Go down to the house of General Joab and have him come here so I can give him
instructions to have a talk with my father." ~~So~~ The servant goes to Joab's
house and delivers the message, but Joab ignores it. After waiting a while,
Absalom calls the servant and says, "Go to General Joab's house again and tell
him that it is urgent that he come here and then ask for an audience with the
king." The servant goes the second time, but again Joab ignores ~~it~~ Absalom's
invitation. At this point Absalom recognizes that he is being deliberately ig-
nored and so he calls all of his servants together. He says to them, "Now as

as you look out from our veranda here what do you see?" The servants answered, "We see the fields of General Joab with the Barley crop just about ripe."

Absalom answers, "Right. And now I want you to each take a torch and go to that field and set it on fire." So they did. And it wasn't too long until General Joab appeared at the residence of Absalom. He asks, "How come you had your servants set my field of Barley on fire?" Absalom answers, "Look General, I sent for you on two different occasions and you completely ignored me. I had to do something to get your attention and so I figured this was one way to do it. It worked didn't it?" Joab had to reluctantly agree that it did and so Absalom tells him, "Look, I want you to go to my father and tell him I'm tired of cooling my heels here being ignored by him. I might as well still be in Geshur for all the good I'm doing." So Joab goes to the king and carries the message and King David sends for Absalom and is welcomed into the king's presence once again. It is one thing to be summoned by the King. But it is quite another to be summoned by the King's Son. Quite often the King's Son is one who will use what limited powers he has to show his authority. This is one reason why Joab ignored Absalom. He had done that which he could to get Absalom back into the good graces of King David and he probably figured that it was now up to Absalom to prove himself before the king. But things didn't work out quite that way and so the king's son had to someone to do his work for him.

There is a definite similarity between this story and God. ~~But~~ The King of course is God, and the Son is Jesus Christ. We the people stand for Joab. This is the list of characters if we want to make a ~~par~~ parable out of this. The call of course to come before the King is to surrender our lives to Him and to live for Him. But quite often the King's Son is summoning those who want to ignore Him and go about their own business at hand. We want to go our own way and so something must get us to listen.

(Illustration of teacher, bad boy, principal and spanking)

This is what Absalom did. He got the attention of Joab and the message came through loud and clear, "The King's Son wants to speak to you."

Quite often, people live a carefree life apart from God and looking to tomorrow enter the fold. Sometimes the only way God can get our attention is to bring us up short in some adversity or affliction. Have you ever been involved in some trying situation and have asked, ~~Why~~ "Oh God, why is this happening?" Or you may have felt completely alone and deserted and it was just you against the world. But have you ever stopped to think that in the midst of that circumstance the King's Son was calling you?" Most people don't. They just look at it as fate, or coincidence, or some freak thing of the moment. But this is a serious business which you and I are involved in. We need all of the help we can possibly get to get us through this life. But most importantly we need to understand that the clock of life is ticking down. It makes no difference what your age, there is no guarantee that you will see tomorrow. These past two weekends are a good example of this. Last Friday ~~the~~ June 1st the man who tabled our resolution at the Lake Erie Association meeting last May, had a fatal heart attack. Yesterday, a good and faithful pastor in Butler had a fatal heart attack. One man believed in God's Word and preached it, the other man, I never knew where he stood or what he believed. All I know is that he wanted to interpret things in a very liberal way. Both of them answered the call of the King's Son to eternity. ~~Where they live now~~ Neither of them were aware that last Friday, and yesterday were their last days upon earth. ~~xxx~~ Some of you here this morning have refused to answer that call even though you have had the chance. I know, its the same old pitch and I'm not interested. But what does it take to make it possible to respond? Is it a fear of what your other church member friends will think or say? I have known those who refused the call because of that. Is it because you are afraid you will have to become a recluse or a hermit? Whatever the reason, you need to know that the King's Son calls to look at your life, repent, and accept Him as the Lord and Saviour of your life and then strive to live the Christian life. It is the answer to the call of the King's Son and it can revolutionize your life. Don't let anyone or anything let you miss that call. It is later than any of think.

Now is the time and today is the opportunity. If God is speaking to your heart this morning, answer that call before it is too late. You may have backslidden and need to re-committ your life. Today is the time to answer that call. Whatever the case, during the singing of our last hymn, if ~~God is speaking to~~ God's Holy Spirit is speaking to your heart, please don't be embarrassed and just step into the aisle and come forward. Let us each anser the call of the King's Son today, in whatever way He is moving us to answer.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Father's Day June 17, 1979

Mr. Chester Stauffer, Speaker

Mrs. Kitty Feder, Organist

Jeff Knauer, Brian Hollefreund - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

Prelude "Simple Awe" Thome

*Processional Hymn No. 43 "When morning gilds the skies"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we implore thy mercy in behalf of all classes and conditions of men, that it may please thee to visit them with thy most compassionate help, according to their manifold necessities and wants. Especially do we beseech thee to have pity upon all widows and orphans; upon all prisoners and captives; upon all sick and dying persons; upon all such as are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Enable them to look unto thee, O most merciful Father, and to call upon thy Name, that they may find thee a present Saviour in their affliction and distress. And let it please thee to deliver them, and raise them up in due time, giving them patience under all their sufferings, the rich comfort of thy grace here below, and eternal rest with thee in heaven; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen"

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation, * Laywoman)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Lay Woman: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Scripture: Mark 13: 5-27

Hymn No. 249 "Lead on, O King eternal!"

*Affirmation of Faith (Apostles Creed)

*Gloria Patri

Call to Prayer

*Lay Woman The Lord be with you.

*People: And with thy spirit.

*Lay Woman: Let us Pray together.

Prayer - Together (Page 19) Confession of Sin

Prayer and Prayer Response

Announcements

Offering

Offertory "Largo"

Dvorak

Solo: "Evening Prayer" Nancy Link, Soprano

Message "MUST WE CHANGE"

Prayer and Lords Prayer

Hymn No. 470 "Saviour, Thy dying love"

Benediction Three Fold Amen

Organ Postlude "It is no Secret"

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been given by

Chuck and Lula Penar in memory of Pam Pflugh.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Rob Vinroe, Bob Dellen,

Gordon Kennedy and Randy Dellen.

Mike Nazaruk and Mid Diefenderfer will be visiting

the hospital this coming week.

Nursery will be provided today by

Deacon and Mrs. George Eichhorn will greet the
Congregation and Visitors at the door this morning.

Next Sunday - Church in the Park - Large shelter

in the back at Memorial Park. Service at 11:00.

Church Family picnic following. Don't forget to

bring enough food for your family. Beverage and

dessert will be furnished.

There will be no Church School next Sunday.

If you need a ride to the Park - we will get transportation for you.

Vacation Bible school will continue Monday thru Thurs.

of this week. Time: - 7 to 9.

If you signed up to bake cookies or were asked to bake cookies - don't forget to bring them.

Hospitalized: Mrs. Betty Carney

We wish to thank "Chet" Stauffer for bringing the message this morning.

Our thanks to Norma Knauer for serving as Liturgist.

NEXT SUNDAY THE SERVICE WILL BE AT 11:00 A. M. IN ORDER

TO GIVE THE WOMEN MORE TIME TO PREPARE THE FOOD FOR

THE PICNIC AFTER THE SERVICE.

There are additional Daily Bread Booklets in the

Narthex. If you haven't picked yours up - please

do so today.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Third Sunday After Pentecost June 24, 1979
Church in the Park

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mr. Paul Harbison, Liturgist
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Organist

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "I Heard a Forest Praying" DeRose

*Ascription
*Hymn No. 32 Page 18 Old Favorites - "He Lives"

*Call to Worship:

Pastor: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
People: Fear before Him, all the earth.
Pastor: Come ye, and let us walk in the light
of the Lord.
People: He will teach us of His ways, and we will
walk in His paths.

*Invocation
Hymn No. 40 Page 22 Old Favorites - "Blessed Assurance"
Morning Prayers
Announcements
Offering

Offertory "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" Morris
Duet "Just a Talk With God" Cyndie and Rob Sybert
Scripture 2 Samuel 15:1-12
Sermon: "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 31 Page 17 Old Favorites "Trust and Obey"
Postlude: "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You"
Wilson

+ + + + +
Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel,
Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.

➤ Hospitalized: Lewis Kradel, Evelyn Shakely - BCMH. *OUT B. ZAVAK*
Kay Morris - Allegheny General; Edward Weichey -
Cleveland Clinic.

Tues. - 7:00 - Youth Fellowship will meet at South
Side Park

➤ Sat. - 8:00 - 3:00 P.M. There will be a Pancake -
Car Wash hereat the Church. Come and eat breakfast
while your car is being washed. Benefit of the Youth

Fellowship fund raising.

➤ Congratulations to Chet and Marie Stauffer who
celebrated their 33rd Wedding Anniversary last
Thursday - June 21.

Last week we received a Painting Project envelope
with \$10.00 in it and no name to give credit.
Please let Bea Tait know if it was yours.

➤ We thank Chet Stauffer, Norma Knauer, Kitty Feder
Roland Thompson and Nancy Link, the choir and all
who took part in our service last Sunday.

We wish to thank all who taught, helped, directed,
baked cookies, or did anything to make our Vacation
Bible School a success which it was.

William Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the
Hospital this coming week.

Guy Amrstrong would like to thank the Congregation
for Prayers, cards and letters. Guy is out of the
Hospital now. Their new address is 3751 S. W. 31st
St., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33312

Harold Sandbach would like to thank the Congregation
for their Prayers, cards and flowers during his stay
in the Hospital.

Next Sunday - Church School at 9:00 and Morning Worship
at 10:00.

- - - - -
CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE A JOY TO KNOW...

People who know how to brighten a day
With heart-warming smiles
And with kind words they say.
People who know how to gently impart
The comfort it takes
To cheer somebody's heart.
People who know how to always come through
When there's anything
They can possibly do.
People who know how to willingly share,
Who know how to give
And who know how to care.
Who know how to let all their warm feelings show..
Are the people that others feel lucky to know.

"Beauty And The Beast"

Scrip: 2 Sam 15:1-12; Text 2 Sam 14:25; 15:12b

Once pon tim beutiful kingd 4ever gud & jus King rein
In kingd 1princ mor beutiful than rest;held honor
posit & 3rd line authoty of King. Bit by bit Bgan
osist authoty King, & sow seed distrust,disharmon
so butiful perf kingd slow deteriorate disharmon
disunity

King tak action 2preserv buty,harmony kingd of 4ever
requir removl butiful princ & hurt King deeply & eo
princ banish from kingd 4ever,4 all tim Bcuz peace
harmony at stak

altho princ banish stil had powr,authroty & unleah
nothr kingd & it ugly,unbutiful

4this peop this kingd sufr & B afflict many ways

& he literly turn from buty 2 Beast

action caus 1man write=Ezek 18:13-19

nothr writ Isa 14:12-17

2 " butiful princ liv F's kingd & read=2 Sam 14:25

Buty & charm mak naturl leadr

This pt lif Ab resotr Kindg Dav kingdom,& fav sons

Even if kn Solo 2Bcum king,desir Bgan grow develop

& he plan infinite detail

He reson=Amnon ded,he kil,Abigail son ded,& he nex li

The posib Dav nam Solo king & he mus asur rise 2thro

Start schedul tuk 4yr 2complet

Let's C wat 1st thing=Ah yes bodygard=50men char,hors

Now hav protect from threts includ Fthr & no worry

2nd thing=politicl favor peop=sit in gate,sho interes

thez won afECTION peopls harts & so buty,compasion

2 thing need wen Dav step down

No wat? mus get away 4nex step=ask Fthr go 2 Hebron

2mak pilgrimag ther,He no refus & can operat disdents

ther & no pry eyes 2C

So went & dound disatis among peop Bcuz capital not
here but at Jeru

But this plan wel hatch & plot 4 4yr & now set 2 name

him King Absalom & spies tol=wen hear tump declar Kin

200 men went with Ab,mne no knu his plans

He cal serv=Go 2 Giloh 5mi & ask Ahithophel,peop nkn
hi,wen find bring bak

Serv return & Ahithophel stan B4 & he say,"Sir,I kno

U giv everthing 2join forc with me,But Bliev me U

hav gold oportun. U serv my Fthr as pesonl counselor

but ever reason giv Bcuz sens gilt? Bathsheba grdotr

& gold oportuntiy aveng her sham & sham famly sufr

Read 3 12b=much mor 2 story but badic wat 1nce buty

end 1 Beast Why hapen? isolate case? Only few

instanc? No,Bcuz 1st Buty=Satan,Lucifer

He 1 G's mos butiful angels

This origin sin & aflic mank sinc

Bcuz it, we hav siknes, sufr, disease, war, hatred, envy
& deth

U & I B4 G as Buty. May nevr thot that way, but
create 2luv, serv Him & we creat His imag

We sumthin specil 2 Him

But can & do warp & distort Buty & turn in2 Beasts
Like Williw & his accomplishment=(Illus Willie, Dat)

Aren't oft lik this? Don't do things hurt, & caus
pain & gloat til G speak 2us?

& then lk & C action no lik G want them 2b
Chang wat shud B Buty 2 Beast

(Illus 15yr old girl die Chicago & 400,000 lik her)
WHY? Bcuz society givn Beast insted Buty G intended

Listen lietter from 25 yr old girl:

(Illus Cindy, Chatanooga, Tenn & hopeless lif)

Duz any1 care? Isn't any2 wil 2 reach out in compas
& luv 2underdogs of society

I wud hope sooner or latr it U & me

That we B mor concern thoz hurt around us

Mor concern than jus our own littl worlds & kingdom
we hav tendency 2 create

Ther hope, but it rest hands U & me folo examp Js Xp

It involv pik up crosses, deny selvs sum personal
pleasurs seek so strongly

& then folo Him

This wat Js say & sed & red this Adult VBS

John 13:34-35

It mean Trust & Obey & by do this, can C Beasts
chang in2 Buty G intend 4them & 4us.

"Beauty And The Beast"

Scripture: 2 Samuel 15:1-12

Text: 2 Samuel 14:25; 15:12b

Once upon a time in the ~~ki~~ beautiful kingdom of Forever a good and just King reigned. In that kingdom there was one among the Princes who was more beautiful than the rest. He held an honored and esteemed position among the others and was the third in line of power and authority. But little by little he began to resent and resist the authority of the King. Little by little he began to sow seeds of distrust and disloyalty. What was a perfect and beautiful kingdom was slowly deteriorating into a kingdom of disharmony and disunity. The King being the loving person He was, had to take action to preserve the beauty and harmony of the Kingdom of Forever. This required the removal of the very beautiful Prince who was causing the disturbance. This hurt the King very deeply for He loved him dearly. But the peace and harmony of the Kingdom was at stake. So the Prince was banished from the Kingdom ~~forever~~ of Forever for all time.

But the beautiful Prince even though he was banished from the Kingdom of Forever, still held a certain power and authority which he now unleashed in yet another kingdom. So he was now making another kingdom ugly and unbeautiful. For this he caused the people who inhabited this kingdom to suffer and be afflicted in so many different ways. He had literally turned from being, "Beauty," to being a, "Beast."

The actions of this Prince caused one man to write of him, (Read Ezekiel 28: 13-19). Another man was inspired to write of him, (read Isaiah 14:12-17).

But there was another very beautiful Prince living in his Father's kingdom and we read of him, (Read 2 Samuel 14:25). With this beauty he had a charm which made him a natural leader. At this point in his life Absalom was once again restored to a place of honor in King David's kingdom. He was once again accepted as one of the favorite Sons. But even if Absalom knew that Solomon was to be the one to succeed David on the throne, the desire to gain that throne for himself began to develop and grow in his life and mind. So Absalom began to plan this ⁱⁿinfinite detail. He reasoned that Amnon was dead, he had killed him. Abigail's son was dead, and so he, Absalom was the next in line. There was what appeared to be the remote possibility that David would name Solomon as King, and so he had to make the necessary moves to assure his ascendancy to the throne.

So he started on his schedule which took four years to complete. Let's see, what is the first thing a Prince next in line for the throne would need? Ah yes, a bodyguard. So Absalom went out and secured for himself a personal bodyguard of fifty men with chariots and horses. Now he could let his protection

against ~~xx~~ the threats of anyone, including his father King David, in the hands of these fifty capable men. Now the second move, what shall it be? To win the political favor of the people. How to do that? I know, I'll sit in the gate and listen to the problems and complaints of the people and help them to resolve those problems. Even my father if he gets wind of this will certainly see that I have the best interest of the people of his kingdom at heart. These actions won for Absalom the affections of the people. They looked upon him as one who really cared and if he were made the next king he would be the one to do so. His beauty along with his compassion were two unbeatable the kingdom sorely needed when David stepped down from the throne.

All of this being placed in its proper perspective Absalom is ready to unfold his next stratagem. "Now what must I do" he probably asked. "I must get away from the palace in order to perform my next move so my Father cannot muster his forces to stop me. Now let's see! I'll go to him and ask leave to go to Hebron on the pretext that I am making a pilgrimage there. He won't dare refuse me and then I can operate among the dissidents, but also away from any loyal prying eyes my father has scattered throughout Jerusalem. So he went to Hebron. But in hatching this plot he had also discovered there was a growing dissatisfaction among some of the tribes of Judah that the capital had been moved to Jerusalem. He couldn't possibly have just gone to Hebron and raised a group of undercover agents to infiltrate the kingdom. This had taken time and patience and was well worked out over this four year period. So now the stage was set to spring the trap and be named King Absalom. His spies had been told, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, you shall declare that Absalom reigns in Hebron." And so Absalom leaves Jerusalem and takes with him 200 men who were loyal followers of his. Men who did not know the complete story of what Absalom was striving to do.

Now ~~for the~~ it is time to play the big ace left in his hand. Absalom calls one of his servants to him and says, "I want ~~xx~~ you to go Giloh the little village about 5 miles down the road and ask for a man named Ahithophel. People there

will know him. When you find him, bring him back with you."

the servant departed on his errand and in a short time Ahithophel was standing in the presence of Absalom. Absalom begins to speak to Ahithophel at this point. "Sir, I recognize that you are giving up everything to join forces with me, but believe me, you know as well as I do that this is your golden opportunity. You have served my father as a personal counsellor, but did you ever reason that perhaps this job was given to you ~~perhaps~~ out of a sense of guilt? Since Bathsheba is your granddaughter, this is your golden opportunity to avenge the dishonor and shame your family has suffered at the hands of my father King David." And so we read the concluding words of this portion of Scripture, (Read vs 12b).

There is much more to this story which ends in the death of Absalom and the triumph of David over this conspiracy. But we need to see in this that once again what was once "Beauty," had over a period of time turned to the, "Beast."

But why we may ask does this happen? Is it an isolated case? Did this only take place in a few instances? The answer of course is no to the latter question and it happens because of the first Beauty turning into the Beast. I refer of course to Stan who was Lucifer in God's heavenly kingdom. One of God's created angels and one of the most beautiful.

This is the origin of sin and it has afflicted mankind ever since. Because of it we have sickness and disease. We have suffering and illness. We have war and hatred and envy and especially we have death because of it.

You and I are before God as "Beauty." You may have never thought of it in that light, but we are. We were created to love and serve Him, and He created us in His image. We are something special to Him. But we can and do distort and warp that Beauty into its most ugly forms and we in turn often become "Beasts."

Sometimes we are like little Willie who burst into his house calling to his ~~mom~~ show her his latest accomplishment.

(Illustration Willie, dead, rat, minister, "God called him home.")

AREN't we often in the same boat? Don't we do things that hurt and inflict pain on others and we can gloat over our accomplishment until God speaks to us,

and we look and see that our actions or words are ugly and not at all like He puts them to be? We change what should be "Bauty" to the "Beast."

Recently a 15 year old girl died in Chicago. Her body was place in the morgue and she was not identified until weeks later. More than 1000 parents called to see if that girl was their daughter. Today there are over 400, 000 tennage run-aways in our nation. Why? Because society has given them the "Beast" instead of the "Beauty" that God intended. Listen to this letter from a 25 year old girl:

(Illustration Cindy of Chatanooga, Tenn and hopeless life)

Does anyone care? Isn't there someone who ~~gives~~ is willing to reach out in compassion and love to these underdogs of society? I would hope that sooner or later it would be me and you. That we would be more concerned about those around us each day with hurts, than we are with our own little worlds and kingdoms we have a tendency to build and create.

There is hope. But that hope rests in the hands of you and I following the example of Jesus Christ. It involves picking up our crosses, denying ourselves some of the personal pleasures we seek so strongly; and then following Him. Jesus tells us this and we shared this several times in the past two weeks in our Adult Vacation Bible School classes. In John the 13th chapter and the 34th and 35th verses, (read this). It involves seeking to "Trust and Obey" and by doing this, we can see the "Beasts" changed into the "Beauty" that God intended for them and for us.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost July 1, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kitty Feder - Organist
Dianne Zavacky, Julie Vargo - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.
Prelude "Finlandia" Sibelius
*Processional Hymn No. 290 "Stand up, stand up for Jesus"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Our Father, send thy Spirit
with fire and zeal into our sinful lives. We confess
our brokenness in thy church; the dissension we have
perhaps caused by unbelief, or disobedience to thy Word.
Grant us a new Spirit to live for thee and to overcome
the temptations we so often fall victim to; cleanse us
and forgive us again. Through Christ our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 303 "Come, ye disconsolate"

Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "To a Wild Rose" MacDowell
Anthem: "Amazing Grace" arr. Dick Biehl
Jack Chiprean, trpt; Gus Gour, tromb;
Rol Thompson, Sax.
Scripture 2 Timothy 3: 1-13
mon: "FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Processional Hymn No. 289 "Soldiers of Christ, arise
*Benediction
*Postlude "Battle Hymn of Republic" Smith
----- *Congregation Standing -----
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Nohach in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Charles Penar,
Dave McMillin, Dan Bosko and Robert Knauer.
Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Diefenderfer will greet the Congrega-
tion at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Larry McWilliams
Beth and Amy Burns.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Amelia Leighton, Lewis Kradel, MAX KENNEL
Bill Zavacky- BCMH. Mrs. Kay Morris - Allegheny
General Hospital, 320 E. North Ave. Pittsburgh, Pa.
15212, Rm. 1638
Our sincere Sympathy to Mrs. Jane Watterson, Family
and Friends of Mrs. Gertrude Frederick (Jane's
Mother) who was buried yesterday.
There are still some daily bread booklets in the
Narthex, please take and use them.
Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
+ + + + +
A FATHER'S PRAYER
Give me, O God, the wisdom that I need
to mold the tender lives within my care;
Give me the power, that I may subtly lead
Them into righteousness--true joy is there.
I ask for them no rainbowed path of ease;
I ask for them no store of wealth or fame;
I only ask that by their lives they please
Thee and the world with an untarnished name.
I know that man is weak and life is strong,
And sometimes honest roads look very drear,
That winning laurels often takes too long
And luring vistas from all sides appear,
But, while my young are still beneath my wing,
God, help me guide them right, in everything.

Have a happy, safe 4th of July
We have a child's blue sweat shirt in the office

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
OF SAGAMORE**

June 28, 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----Higher Ground-----#469

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----In the Garden-----#588

SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 3:1-13

SERMON: "Seat Belts Fastened"

**INVITATIONAL HYMN—Savior Like a Shepherd-----#601

**BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.....

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you so desire.

** Please stand

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF THE WEEK.....**

* July 11, 1998: 4 - 7:30 PM Strawberry Festival.

* July 11, 1998: 8 PM: Bible School Program. -ADULT

* July 6 - 10: Bible School. We need Cookies & drink. CLAW

* Pre-registration forms for Vacation Bible School goes to JoAnn or Joyce.

NEXT SUN. PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN FOR
* Please keep the BILO receipts coming every little PIC DIR.
bit adds up. LENA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

July 1-----Peggy Bailey

July 1-----Katlyn Fairman

July 2-----Priscilla Hill

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY...

June 28-----Lynn & Dorothy Shotts

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

"If it's free, It's Advice;
If you pay for it, It's Counseling;
If you can use either one,
It's a Miracle!

LINDA = SALVATION

BERNARD -

KATHY - CAMEL

EMMA -

JEFF - CAMEL

PAUL WRIT 2TIM BOUT EVENTS WILB SIGNS OF TH/LAST DAYS - HE WRITES
VS 1=LAST DAYS=OUR PRESENT AGE/TIME - TIME SINC 1st CUM OF TH/L
UNTIL HIS RETURN

PERILOUS=DIFICULT/DANGRUS/FURIUS/FIERCE, SAVAG NATURE OF TIMES
TIMES=PERIODS OF TIME, NOT CLK/CALENDAR TIMES-EXAMP=DECADES
THEZ ERAS WIL INCREAS INTENSITY/FREQ AS RETURN XP APPROACHES
2A=LOVRS OF SELF=SELF-PRID, FOND OF SELF="LK AT ME, HOW GRT I AM,
NOT "HOW GRT THOU - (GOD) - ART"

2B=COVETUS=DESIR WAT OTHERS HAV - TV COMERCIL BMW/OTHER CAR
2C=BOASTRS="I'M TH/BEST, I'M #1-EXAMP-FL MARLINS BOT WORLD SERIES
2D=PROUD=GOES W/COVETUS, BOASTRS, BETTR THAN ANYONE ELSE
2E=BLASPHEMUS=USING G'S NAM WRONGLY, IRREVENTLY, PROFANLY, (PLU)
2F=DISOB 2PARENTS=CHILDREN OUT OF CONTROL - LK WAT D2DAY
2G=UNTHANKFUL=THIS IS CUM 2ME, I DESERV IT, WHY SHUD I SAY THANKS??

2H=UNHOLY=VICED/PROFAN, DOING THINGS OPOSED 2THINGS OF GOD

3A=W/OUT NATURL AFFECTIN=HOMOSEXUALITY

3B=TRUCEBRAKRS=MAK AGREEMENTS & BRK THEM

3C=FALS ACUSERS=SLANDERERS - SUE CRAZY SOCIETY

3D=INCONTINENT=W/OUT SELF-CONTROL/SELF-RESTRAINT IN REGARD SEX

3E=FIERCE=SAVAGE, KILLER INSTINCT, WIN AT ALL COSTS

3F=DESPISRS OF THOZ WHO R GUD=DISLIK/HOSTIL PWAT RT/DECENT

4A=TRAITORS=THOZ BETRAY NATIN - SEVRAL AWAIT TRIAL NOW

4B=HEADY=RASH, RECKLESS W/OUT THINKING

4C=HIGH-MINDED=SELF-CONCEIT, PROUD, BETTR ANYONE ELSE ATTITUDE

4D=LOVRS OF PLEASUR MOR THAN LOVRS OF GOD=SPORTS/ENTERTAINMENT,
SEX PLEASURES, & EMPTY CHURCHES

5=LK SCRIBES/PHARS OUTWARD SHCW & NOT TRUE XPIANTY (JULUS
(CONGREGATIONS SET ON FORMS/RITUALS/RULES, ETC) BOOTH 02/24

6=WOMEN=SOAP OPERAS IMMOAL PORTRAYALS HAV INFL MANY & I BLIEV

THIS LRG CONTRIBUTR 2TH/DIVORCE & MARITAL SCENE OF 2DAY

7=HFRD WORD, NO RECEIV - TV PREACHRS FOLWRS & CP TO LOCAL PREACHR

AL PREACHRS FAITHFUL/SERVANTS & CANT CP

8=ACORD JEW TRAD THEZ 2OF EGYPTIN MAGICINS OPOS MOSES PERFORM

MAGIC OF PLAGUES

THEY PRETEND BCUM JEWISH BLIEVRS, INSTIGAT WORSH GOLIN CALF & KILL

9=SCORR/LATR BCUM CLEARTHEZ TYPES PEOP R FALS TEACHRS/LDRS

10-11=P'S LIST ENDURANCES/AFFLICTINS & GOD DELIVR HIM

12=FAITHFUL BLIEVRS MUS EXPEC PERSECUTIN/SUPR AT HANDS OF CHRIST

REJECTING WORLD - WE READ/HEAR OF THIS TODAY

13=ALL TH/DANGERUS MOVEMENTS OF FALS TEACHRS/LDRS WIL ESCALAT

UNTIL XP CUMS FOR HIS CHURCH

(ILLUS FRENCH CHEMIST BERTHELOT, GOD, & CLOSING TIME)

I BLIEV WE R AT THAT POINT RITE NOW

ARE UR SEAT BELTS FASTENED?

THEN PAUL GIVS A CONCLUSIN TO THIS MESAG IN VSS 14-15

(READ THEZ VERSES)

"Fasten Your Seat Belt"

Scrip: 2 Tim. 3:1-13; Text: 2 Tim. 3:1

(Illus Flight 191=272 perish)

How many redy 4etern flite? G knos, but 1thing cert=

ea had ampl tim 2asur etern destiny

had prep 4 flite observ sign=Fast Seat Belt, only 2

& covr made plans 4 unexpect flite

U & I as sit/stand being admonish=Fastn Seat Belt

& prep 4 rest jorney G unfold 4 ea us

2say liv uncert times gros understatement

If awar G's timetabl & flitplan no need alarm, insted

anticpat wat unfold futur days, months, yrs.

I Bliev liv Lattr Days=P reveal 2tim wat 2B & my

Blief talk bout our time as oppos Bib Scholar

Blief base chap 4=vss 1-8 expl

Lk list chap 3:vs 1=Raptur as P says othr scrip=Ded

in Xp arise, & then thos on erth

Vss 2-11=luvrs self-thay it & know it

covetous=C wat neighbor hav & want

(Go thru list ' by ' & explain)

vss 8 & 9=men no name OT, but real peop & try turn

Moses & peop from God

vss 10 & 11=P endure 4 Gospel & so mus Tim & us

vs 12=we get persecute & 2day many R 4 faith

R U willing 2do so?

Vs 13=get wors & wors & times get bleak

Trib=7yrs aftr Raptur & worst all histry, no eat, no

work, no food if no worship Beast, AntiChrist

4 Blievrs out B4 Trib, but any1 comon sens kno this

no cum suddn=gud times, Raptur & then Trib

Work up 2it gradual & Xpians liv thru Bgining Trib

' is wat P say Vs 12

So we need 2kno thez things, underst them &

Fasten Your Seat Belt 4continu flite ahead

(Illus Colo drought, sewage water, gud/bad news)

Shud B abl 2laf shortages, selfishnes, greed caus them

But G stil in control

" Bcum serious busnes wen think wher stand in

relationship 2 Js Xp

(Illus Dr. Barnhaus & girl on plane 2visit husband

R U prepared? Hav U Fastened Seat Belt?

R U awar if Skylab mes solar system U wud B with

Lord?

Thez serious questions & we need 2deal with them

2many us liv only 4this lif, this worl, & all this worl

hav 2offr

We 'd 2 point our eyes & livs heavneward & seek the

Lord whil He mayB found. I urg U 2mak that choic &

decision whil stil time & then let us all "Fasten

Our Seat Belts & prep 4flite of a lifetime.

2 TIMOTHY 3:14-15

PAUL IS TALKING HERE OF PERSEVERANCE, OF PERSISTENCE,
OF STICK-TO-IT-IVENESS

(ILLUSTRATION OF HOWARD HENDRICKS, SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION)
(ILLUSTRATION OF "YARD BY YARD, & INCH BY INCH")

WE NEED THE ASSURANCE OF -- VERSE 14 - (READ IT)

WE NEED TO CONTINUE IN TH/THINGS WH/WE HAV LERNED,
NO MATTER WAT HAPPNS IN THEZ PERILUS TIMES

WE BLONG TO OUR ~~MYIA~~ LORD & SAVIOR JS XP

IS UR SEAT BELT FASTENED???

R U REDY 4 TH/REST OF TH/TRIP????

R U PREPARED???

WE N'ED TO POINT OUR EYES & OUR LIVS HVNWARD

LET US SEEK TH/LORD WHIL HE MAYB END

IF U HAVNT MADE TH/CHOIC & DECISIN YET, 2DAY IS TH/TIME

AND THEN LET US ALL FASTEN OUR SEAT BELTS & PREPARE FOR THE
FLITE OF A LIFETIME!

SCRIP: 2 TIM 3:1-13; SERMON: "SEAT BELTS FASTENED?"

(ILUS JETLINER TAK OFF, CRASH & ALL DIE)

HOW MANY WER PREP 4ETRNAL FLITE??? ONLY GOD KNOWS

ONE THING CERTIN, EA HAD AMPL TIME 2ASUR THER ETRNL DESTNY

HAD PREP SELVS FOR ONE FLITE, BY OBSERV SIGN=FASTN UR SEAT BELT

C'LY 2DISCOVR THEY WER MAK PLANS 4EVN MOR UNEXPECTD FLITE

AS HERE THIS MORN NEED 2ASK, "SEAT BELTS FASTENED, EVRYONE???"

WE NNED 2PREP 4RES JURNY AS GOD UNFOLDS 2EACH OF US

2SAY WE LIV UNCERT T MES IS UNDRSTAMENT

BUT IF WE AWAR GOD'S TIMTABL/FLITEPLAN WE NEED NO ALARM

INSTED, WE CAN ANTICIPAT WAT WIL UNFOLD FUTUR DAYS/MNTHS/YRS

WHETHER WANT FACE OR NO, I BLIEV WE LIV IN LAS DAYS, LATTR DAYS

TH/SIGNS KEEP PT 2IT MOR & MOR

WE READ WAT PAUL SAY BOUT THIS, LISTN WAT JS SED MT 24:4-8

ever herd/SEEN WEATHR SUCH AS HAV HAD RECENTLY???

WINTER NO SNOW & COLD, TORNADO'S, FLOODS, DROUGHTS, BAD & NO
CROPS

VSSS 9-10=xprians suffr many places today lik nevr b4

VSS 11=FAIS PROPHS, PEOPL LISTN 2THEM BCUZ NEED ANSES

VS 12=WE C WHOLSAL TURN AWAY FR/TH & THINGS OF GOD

THEZ R WORDS OF JS ABOUT TH/END TIMES, OR LATTR DAYS

LET'S LK WAT PAUL SED BOUT THIS AS INSPIRD BY GOD TO WRITE

(TURN TO 2 TIM 3, & MORN SCRIPTURE)

"Fasten Your Seat Belt"

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:1-13

Text: 2 Timothy 3:1

The sleek jetliner stood at its loading space taking on baggage, crew and passengers. It was checked over, refueled and made ready for takeoff. Destination; Los Angeles, California. When all was in readiness the doors were closed and the engines were started. The sign flashed on: "Fasten Your Seat Belt." The passengers peered out the windows straining to catch one last glimpse of friends loved ones, and relatives. The plane backed out of its berth and began to taxi to the runway. At the end of the runway when it came their turn to takeoff the pilot radioed the tower for takeoff clearance and indicated that all was in working order. The order came to takeoff and Flight 191 sped down the runway and in moments was off the ground and airborne. But then, just as suddenly as everything went well, now all seemed to be going wrong. Within a few minutes, one of the engines tore loose from its moorings and fell to the earth. The plane lurched sideways and turned over in flight and slammed to the earth in one huge ball of flame. All 272 people aboard that plane perished in that crash. One moment they were headed toward their earthly destination, the next they were hurtled into eternity.

How many were prepared for that eternal flight? Only God knows. But one thing is certain and that is, each of them had ample time to assure their eternal destiny. They had prepared themselves for one flight by observing the sign, "Fasten Your Seat Belt," only to discover they were making plans for an even more unexpected flight. But this is part of life. You and I, even as we stand and sit here this morning are being admonished to, "Fasten Your Seat Belt" and prepare for the rest of the journey as God unfolds it to each of us.

To say we live in uncertain times is to make the largest understatement we could make. But if we are aware of God's timetable and flightplan we need not be alarmed, but instead, can anticipate what will unfold in the future days, months and years.

Whether we want to face it or not I believe that we are living in what may well be the latter days. The signs keep pointing toward it more and more. Our Scripture this morning is Paul's revelation to Timothy what is going to transpire. I must say at this point that I believe that Paul was talking of days well in the future of the time when he first wrote this. Some Biblical scholars want us to believe that Paul wrote this for his own time and circumstances and therefore it does not apply to us. I don't believe this for one moment. I believe that at first Paul believed that Jesus Christ would return during his lifetime.

But as time went on and the years went by, Paul came to the conclusion that Jesus is going to return after Paul and the others had departed this life by death. I base my beliefs on what Paul has written in the 4th chapter of this letter. Turn to this fourth chapter and let us look at a few verses. He begins in verse one by telling Timothy to be steadfast in the faith and to continue diligently in the work of the Lord. He points to a time when the truth will not be heard and people will listen to false doctrines, and false messages of salvation. Then he gives Timothy the news that he knows he is going to be dead in a short time and therefore, Jesus will not return during his lifetime, vss 6-8. Thus, what Paul wrote in the 3rd chapter applies to later times and we are very possibly going through some of those times right now.

But let us look at the list Paul sets forth in the third chapter. He says first of all that in the last days, and he means by this the time just before the rapture of the Church from earth by the appearing of Jesus Christ in the clouds.

On another portion of Scripture he points out that Jesus will appear and the dead in Christ shall arise from their graves. This means those who died believing in Him as Lord and Saviour. Somehow, mysteriously God will raise that dust of the earth and unite it with the spirit living with the Lord and they will have a special time of being with Jesus. But also all of those who are believers and still living when Jesus appears, will be translated off the face of this earth and be taken bodily to be with the Lord. For those of us to whom this happens it is a glorious thing to contemplate. But for those who are left behind it will be the beginning of more horrible times than this old world has ever seen or known.

But Paul goes on here to give a list of what will be taking place in the world during the end times. He points out: Lovers of selves=people who believe they are it in no uncertain terms; covetous=the world is filled with these people today. They see their neighbor with a newer and better car or house than they have and they covet the neighbor having that thing. Boaster=we have more people boasting about more things today than ever before. Look what I've done! The

striving to get in the Guinness book of records is a good example. It's silly I know, but this is what it amounts to. Proud=many, many people are too proud to admit that they have a need deep inside for a saviour. I ~~am~~ recently ran across the second person in my ministry who had no need of communion, because of not being a sinner. This is pride in its most idolatrous form. Blasphemers=many, many people are taking the name of the Lord more and more in vain. Telling untruths which are leading people astray. Rev. Jones is a good example. The nation is filled with disobedient children, both youngsters and grown ones. I know many good Christian people who are having difficulty controlling their children because of the evil influences in our society today. Unthankful=how many people are thankful for anything that you know of? All that many people do is gripe about the weather, conditions, life etc. No thanks whatsoever. Unholy we see this all about us. Without natural affections=the homosexual issue gives us the proper insight into this problem today. Trucebreakers=the Russians and the Chinese are good examples and then our government is going to seek to arrive at accepting the Salt II agreement, & the U.C.C. endorses this treaty. False-accusers=people who will deliberately accuse others of something in order to get ahead. Incontinent=this has to do with immorality, or not being able to be virtuous in our day and age. This has to do with pre-marital sex and we need to change our thinking about this according to some church leaders yet. Fierce=people who will stop at nothing to get ahead. Despisers of those who are good=those who cannot stand anyone knowing, believing, accepting, or living for the Lord, and so these people are persecuted. Traitors=we have people who are doing all that is within their power to topple our government, and some of them sit in seats of authority in Washington, D.C. Heady=people who have all of the intellect and knowledge anyone could have, yet not know the truth. Highminded=people who believe they are way above all others in all things and lord it over them. Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God=our society is bent on having its pleasures regardless of anything else, and God is ignored completely in the process. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof=we see

this operative in many, many congregations both in the leadership and in the people. This is one of the most insidious forms of faith creeping into our society today. Paul points this out in the 6th verse vividly, and if you look at our American scene today you can see the truth of this. Now how can anyone possibly creep into houses and lead what Paul terms, "Silly women captive, laden with sins and led away by divers lusts?" The answer is obvious. Television and the stupid immoral soap operas that prey upon the hearts and minds of thousands of unsuspecting women today. They are hearing and seeing harmful images, and ideas which are turning them into a class of people who begin to accept these things as the way of life. They are "ever learning," ever being taught, and "never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Paul points out two men who although unnamed in the Old Testament were in all probability two individuals who sought to turn the people of Israel against Moses and God.

Paul tells of his persecutions and sufferings and yet how he has endured for the sake of Jesus Christ and the Gospel. He points out, (vs 12), that those who will live for Christ, must suffer persecution. This means that we must be ready to be tested in many ways for our faith. It is not going to be easy. We can see that in many parts of the world Christians are being called upon to suffer for their faith. You and I may well be called upon to do likewise. Are you willing to do so? And then Paul points out in the 13th verse, that evil men and those who would turn us from the faith are going to get worse and worse. Now as we look about us we see conditions getting more bleak as time goes on. But if you are aware of what God's prophetic timetable is, you must surely not be too surprised at this. After the Rapture of the Church from the earth there is supposed to be a period of 7 years of what is called "Tribulation." This is going to be the worst times in all of history. People will not be able to eat, or work, or buy food unless they worship the Anti-Christ upon the earth at that time. But for those who have accepted Christ before that time arrives, they will have been transported out of this world and not go through this suffering.

But anyone with an ounce of common sense must know that it cannot just happen at one minute there are good times in the world, then the Church is raptured out of this world and then the bad times or tribulation for those left behind. It has to be that as time goes on, conditions need to be set in order so that the horrible tribulation can take place. This would mean then that the believer before they are translated out of this world, must go through the beginning period or time leading to the culminating tribulation period.

This is what Paul is saying ~~xxx~~ when he stated, "Yea, and all that live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. So we need to know these things and understand them and "Fasten Your Seat Belt," for the continued flight ahead.

(Illustration of Colorado official, reclaimed sewage water, good and bad news)

~~xx~~ We should be able to laugh at ~~xx~~ the shortages, and selfishness and greed which cause them because no matter what happens God is still in control. But it becomes a serious business when we think of where we stand in relationship to Jesus Christ.

(Dr. Barnhouse and illustration of girl going to see husband on plane)

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Are you prepared? ~~xxxxxxx~~ Have you "Fastened Your Seat Belt?" Are you aware that if Skylab should go awry and upset our solar system to the extent that everything would be chaos, that you would go to be with the Lord? These are serious questions and we need to deal with them.

Too many of us are only living for this life, and this world, and all this world has to offer. We need to point our eyes and our lives heavenward and seek the Lord while He may be found. I urge you to make that choice and decision today, while there is still time. And then let us all, "Fasten Your Seat Belt" and prepare for the flight of a lifetime.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost July 8, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Miss Shelia McCaw - Organist
Diane Zavacky, Julie Vargo - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

Prelude
*Hymn No. 281 "A mighty fortress in our God"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Father Almighty, we come to
you asking for help. Our lives reflect the lack of
light in them by the very gloom around us. We are
filled with anxiety, pessimism and doubt. We look
to other humans for hope and fulfillment. We seek joy
in all manner of things, but find no joy. We are
filled with a sense of need and yet, are not ready to
seek help from beyond ourselves. Help us to know that
we are each sinful, and our need is always you. Forgive
us, and grant your love now and always. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 275 "O Love of God most full"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory
Anthem "The Old Rugged Cross" Rol Thompson - Sax.
Scripture John 4: 1-26
Gospel "The Second Half Gospel"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 272 "Love divine, all loves excelling"
*Benediction Three Fold Amen
*Postlude
- - - - - *Congregation Standing - - - - -
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mrs. Ellen Bauer in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are *Wally Feder, John Snow,
Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Nursery will be provided today by Cyndie Sybert, and
Lori Zavacky.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Grace Riddle, Bill Zavacky, Sr.
Lewis Kradel. - BCMH. Mrs. Kay Morris - Allegheny
General. *See below*
Dick Mangel and George Eichhorn will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
We have Aug. 12 and 26 open for Altar Flowers.
In September we have 23rd and 30th open.
Wed. - 6:00 - Picnic at Dick Mangel's: Church Council
Meeting will follow the picnic.
Thurs. - The Newsletter will be published - Please
have all material in by Wednesday.

- - - - -
"Let me come in where you are weeping, friend
and let me take your hand;
I who have known sorrow such as yours;
for I can understand
Let me come in, I would be very still
beside you in your grief;
I would not bid you cease your weeping, friend
for, tears do bring relief.
Let me come in, I would only breathe a prayer,
and hold your hand,
For I have known a sorrow such as yours,
and I can understand!"
- - - - -

We wish to thank Rol Thompson for playing during the
Hymns and providing background music.

"The Seond Half Gospel"

Scrip: Jn 4:1-26; Text: Jn 4:10

(Story of Js & this Scripture)

Vs 10=she quests Him bout no bucket etc

1st=KNEW=latr 5 husbs & latr tel Messiah

He no relig & demand penanc etc

2nd=ASK=if she ask help ther all time

3rd=BLIEV=Js giv,

TO KNOW, UNDERST, TO ASK, & THEN TO RECEIV

So simple, yet so profound

(Story of Rose Bowl 1929=Ga Tech & Calif)

Wen hear story lik this say=Wat a Coach

This exact wat Js do Sam woman at well

No brow beat, mak confess whol town

" lectur failur wife, evil divorc & how peop mistrus

hate her Bcuz bad marriags

Say in effect=GO BAK ON FIELD, GAME ONLY HALF OVER

(Illus boy & Jn 3:16 sent me)

This wat G want all mankind 2kno

" " lif all about

G gav 2nd chanc Mose, Elijah, Jonah, Dav, Peter, Paul et

He pik up wher R & dry tears & send bak in2 game

4 2nd half

He say 2day, Jn, Mary, Tom, Shirley, Ralph, watever name

Go bak in2game, the game only haf over

This G's luv 4U

He luv U & await U2 kneel simpl submission & sur-
render 2 His will

& then He Bgin 2sho that luv so many ways

READ vs 10=Cum & receiv that Liv Watr & Let G's 2nd
half Gosppl B part Ur life

"The Seond Half Gospel"

Scripture: John 4:1-26

Text: John 4:10

~~xxxxxxx~~ Jesus was about 30 years of age. He had moved from Jerusalem to Judea where He had ministered there. He and His disciples were on their way to Galilee and instead of skirting the area of Samaria as all good Jews had to do, they traveled instead, directly into the area and through it. It was about noon and very hot. This time of the day was not usually the proper time to be traveling because of the intense heat. They came to ~~xxxxxxx~~ Jacob's well at Sychar. Jesus sent His disciples on further to get some food for them. He sat on the edge of the well to rest for He was tired and weary from His travels. While He rested beside the well a Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus spoke to her and said, "Give me a drink of water." This took the woman by surprise because she knew that no good Jew would intentionally speak to a Samaritan. And most especially no good Jew would speak to a woman who came to draw water at this hour of the day. All of the good and proper women drew their water very early in the morning. But the prostitutes, and the women considered of lesser degree were forced to draw water during the heat of the day. If they tried to do so at any other time, they were made to feel uncomfortable, and were even driven off.

So here is this Samaritan woman being addressed by Jesus. She is startled by this and asks Him why He is speaking to her. She is almost questioning, "Don't you know that you are talking to a person who is considered no good?" But Jesus answers her question with the remark, (read verse 10). But she questions Him about not having a bucket. It wasn't customary to let someone else use your bucket. Each one used their own.

The first thing Jesus said to her when she asked why He spoke to her was, "If you only knew who was talking to you." Later verses bring out that He knew her. He knew all about her. He knew that she had had five husbands and was now living with a man who was not her husband. She soon found out how much He knew and when the conversation was ended she went home and invited everyone there to come and see the Christ. The Messiah. But in this do we see Jesus getting very religious, and very indignant that He is speaking to one everyone else was willing to label an adulteress? Not once does He berate her or make her do penance publicly for her sin. He confronts her with it and lets her not only know He is aware of it, but that she is confronted with her life and is made to see there is something missing.

Then He confronts her with the remark, "If thou wouldest have asked of Him." All she had to do was to request His help and she would have it. It was there for her all the time.

And then the third thing that Jesus said to her was, "He would have given thee living water." She would be completely cleansed and made whole. All it took was to know and understand who He was, to ask of Him for His help, and then to receive it. How simple, yet how profound. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxonxxxxsidelinesxxx~~

It was New Year's Day 1929, the first half of the Rose Bowl was being played in Pasadena, California between Georgia Tech and the University of California. A young man named Roy Riegals recovered a fumble for California. Somehow, he became confused and started to run in the wrong direction. One of his own teammates overtook him and tackled him 65 yards away, just before he scored for ~~the~~ Georgia Tech. When his team had to punt, the kick was blocked and Georgia Tech scored a safety which proved to be the final score. Everyone was asking, what will coach Nibbs Price do with Riegals in the second half?" The teams filed into the locker rooms and Roy Riegals sat in a corner with a blanket around his shoulders, sobbing like a baby. The usual things a coach says to his team were omitted that day by coach Nibbs Price. He was probably trying to figure out what to do. When someone came into the dressing room to announce that it was only three minutes to playing time Mr. Price looked at his players and said, "Men, the same team that started the first half will start the second." The players all got up and began to file out onto the field. All but Roy Riegals. He didn't move. The coach called to him, but he still didn't move. Finally he went over to him and knelt in front of him and said, "Roy, didn't you hear me? The same team that started the first half will start the second." It was then that Riegals looked up and with ~~his~~ his cheeks wet with his tears he said, "Coach, I can't do it to save my life. I've ruined you, I've ruined the team, I've ruined the University, I've ruined myself. I couldn't face that crowd for anything." Then coach Price reached out, and placing his ~~xxx~~ hand on Roy's shoulder he said, "Roy, get up, and go on back, the game is only half over." And Roy Riegals went back. The men from Georgia Tech ~~said~~ said they had never seen a man play the second half as he did.

when we hear a story like this we have to say, "What a coach." But this is exactly what Jesus did with the Samaritan woman at the well. He didn't brow beat her into falling on her face and confessing all of her sins to the whole town. He didn't demand a public display of her life story. He didn't give her a lecture on being a failure as a wife and the evils of divorce, and how everyone hated and mistrusted her because she couldn't make any of her marriages work. No. Instead, he said in effect, "Go back ~~into the game~~ on the field, the game is only half over." This is the Gospel of the second half. It includes God's forgiveness to pick us up and let us continue to play the game.

(Illustration of little boy, and John 3:16 sent me).

This is what God wants all of mankind to know. This is what life is all about. God gave second chances to Moses, Elijah, Jonah, David, Peter, Paul and so many others. He picked them up where they were and dried their tears and sent them back into the game for the second half. He is saying today, John, Mary, Tom, Shirley, Ralph and whatever your name happens to be, "Go back into the game, the game is only half over." This is God's love for you. He loves you and awaits you to kneel before Him in simple surrender to His will. And then He will begin to show that love to you in so many ways.

(read verse 10). Come and receive that living water and let God's Second Half Gospel be a part of your life.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost July 15, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Miss Shelia McCaw - Guest Organist
Sharon Pfabe and Lorie Penrod - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.
Prelude "Benedictus" Alec Rowley
*Hymn No. 43 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "We offer unto thee our Father,
praise for the gift of thy Spirit. We ask for thy
Spirit at the times when we are filled with doubt;
when we are filled with hatred; when we are devoid of
patience; when we show forth selfishness. In all
circumstances which are contrary to thy will, send thy
Spirit to help, to heal, and may we know thy forgiveness,
through Christ. Amen."
*Kyrle (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 229 "Dear Father, to Thy Mercy Seat"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory
Duet: "He Touched Me" Rob and Cyndie Sybert
Scripture Luke 5:27-32
Sermon "IS THE DOCTOR IN?"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
Hymn No. 467 "I Love to Tell the Story"

*Benediction Three Fold Amen
*Postlude "Postlude in C" D. Zipol
- - - - - *Congregation Standing - - - - -
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. J. Walter Harmon in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Robb Vinroe, Bob
Dellen, Randy Dellen
Elder and Mrs. Mike Nazaruk will greet the Congregation
at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by:

The attendance last Sunday was 145
Rob Sybert and Bruce McBride will be visiting the
Hospital this coming week.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Mae Dutter,
Mrs. Grace Riddle. Hugh Pyle - ICU - Amrstrong County.
Next Sunday Warren Ihlenfeld will be our Guest Speaker.
If you are in need of help Rev. Bosworth will be
taking care of Pastoral Calls.
Early Church will continue thru Sept. 9th this year,
before reverting back to the old time schedule.
New Members will be received on Sept. 16th. If you
know of anyone wishing to join the church, put their
name and address on a slip of paper and put it in the
offering plate, or tell the Pastor, or Bea.
Altar Flowers are available for Aug. 12 and 26; as
well as Sept. 23 and 30. Should you want either
one of these Sundays let Bea know. Price of Flowers
are \$15.00 however, you receive credit for them on
your yearly statement.
+ + + + + *CONFIDENCE + + + + +
God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.
Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill,
He treasures up His bright designs,
And works His sovereign will.
Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessings on your head.

"Is The Doctor In?"

Scrip: Lk 5:27-32; Text: Lk 5:31

All of us all hav cert expertise cert endeavor, but no
kno, or not quite sure cert thing
(Illus parrot, magician, What did U do with Ship?)
F mps=headache=eyestrain, tak exced, buffer; cold=
ed, juice, aspirin, soup; cold=onion juice, garlic stay
away

But sum1 really need Dr. we baffl wat 2do

Dr. experiment=(Read Beethoven)

Easy 1=no lk pers nex 2U, pik out sum1; may clos eye

Think 3 thing wud tel sum1 bout that persn

I pik sum1 my lef & here my list:

First: pers is unique Unique? Bcuz no1 like that pers

No1 ever wil B, May B U concentrat lks & rt trak

Read Gen 1:26a, 27

Second: That pers luv by G

Tim aftr tim read this Deut 7:8; Jn 3:16

This wat Js striv 2sho scrip AM

Third: Persn is sinner, but no say in judgment,

as much remindr 2me=All sin cum short glory God

Lk examp Js C saw thez things peop

Vs 27=Levi/Matt knew wat was, yet wil acpt B unique

2God & worth effort 2help, redeem & cal as Disciple

Vs 29=went 2feast & saw all need G luv

~~xxx~~ He knu G luv & no1 else seem 2

Tax col=Roman tax=water, meat, salt, city, hous, road,
poll etc.

thoz collect same murdr, robbr, ruffian

no can giv evidenc in cort law, no alms

3rd Js saw=sinners Matt & frends & protest by call

32=anser of Js

Vs 31=real clu 2His ministry, no play Dr, was Dr.

(Illus black man Chicago & cal anothr Dr)

Mayb funny 2U, But RU wil 2call nothr Dr Ur lif &
stop B self-made Dr?

RU wil 2share this Dr with others?

Wat wud say if nex 2U Ex con, prostitute, membr underwor
world, gambler, etc?

Wud UB abl C thoz 3 thing G C's?

That he unique, luv by G, sinner need of salvation?

This wat G want us "C, & feel, & work with

2oft we C, drunkard, divorced persn, lawbreaker etc

G want us 2C sum1 in need His luv

(Illus boy & sunshine 4 brother

No1 2shar our Sonshine 2stumb, confus peop world 2da

G mesag ther Dr. can heal, cleans, but only if Dr ir

our livs If not, invit in & tel persn nex 2U G luv U

& so do I & mean it. Worl need revival as nevr B4

can only Bgin if we wil 2liv act as Savior Js Xp show

"Is The Doctor In?"

Scripture: Luke 5:27-32

Text: Luke 5:31

Almost everyone has a certain expertise in some special field of endeavor.

But in certain areas we are not quite sure of a lot of things. We are something

like the parrot owned by a captain of an ocean liner. The parrot traveled with the captain on every voyage. On one particular voyage a magician had been employed to entertain the passengers while the ship traveled across the ocean. With each trick the magician performed the parrot would shout, "Faker." ~~Even when he made~~ He made several people disappear for a while and the parrot shouted "Faker." Even when he made a pigeon disappear he was called a faker. Suddenly the ship was wracked with a terrible explosion which totally destroyed the ship. Miraculously the magician was thrown into the sea near a large piece of floating wood. He scrambled aboard only to discover that he and the parrot ~~was~~ were the only two survivors of the disaster. After spending two days adrift at sea, glaring at each other, the parrot finally spoke up and said, "All right you win, what did you do with the ship?"

And quite often we are much like this. Especially when it comes to playing doctor. Someone tells us, "I have a headache." We ask if perhaps it might be caused by eyestrain and when was the last time we had our eyes examined. And of course we tell them to take Excedrin, or Bufferin like the commercials. Or someone says that he has a cold. We tell them to go to bed, take aspirin, drink lots of liquids, and eat homemade chicken soup. Or perhaps we may tell someone with a cold to drink onion juice and lemon, and tie a piece of garlic around their neck and go to bed. We do not take into account that perhaps this would only ward off colds because no one else would come near them. But then someone comes along with some strange symptoms and we must confess that we don't what to tell them and so we are willing to entrust them a doctor's care.

This morning since we dabble a lot in doctoring of our own, I would like to perform an experiment with you. I want you to pretend that you are being called upon to render a decision in a certain case. Here is the problem:

(Illustration of murdering Beethoven by abortion decision).

Now that was a tough one. Let's try an easier one. Almost all of you are seated in such a way that there is someone on either side of you. Here is what I want you to do! Do not look at that person. Pick out someone on either side of you and perhaps you may want to close your eyes to ~~ix~~ concentrate on this.

Do not look at that person. But with your mind's eye, think of that person and want you to think of three things you would tell someone about that person. Now we will see how good a doctor you are, and I will pick someone to my left and concentrate on what I would say.

Here is my list: and I would hope that yours would be similar to it. First, I would say that this person is unique. Unique, you say?, yes, unique. Unique because there is only one created exactly like this. No matter how many people many come into the world, no one, will ever be exactly the same as this person. Now you may have been concentrating on the looks of the person next to you. If you have you are partially on the right track. You see, each and everyone of you is special to God. Of all of His creation, man is the one special thing He made. In the book of Genesis we read, that God said, "Let us make man in our own image, in our own likeness, So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them," Gen 1:26a, 27/

Now what is the second thing you have thought about that person? Well, I would say that person is loved by God. Time after time in God's Word we read of this love of God. In Deuteronomy 7:8, for instance we read, (read this). Then in the New Testament we read the very familiar John 3:16. This is exactly what Jesus was striving to show in the portion we read as Scripture this morning. And then what would be the third thing you would say about that person seated near or next to you? I would say that person is a sinner. But I would not say it in judgement of that person, but as much a reminder to myself, "That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

As we look at the example Jesus gives along these lines we cannot help but see that He saw these three very same things in people. In the 27th verse we read that He came upon Levi, or Matthew. He knew what he was and yet He was willing to accept Him as being unique to God and worth the effort to help, and so He called him as one of His disciples.

Then Jesus went to the feast that Matthew had called because He saw there, those

who were in need of God's love. He knew that God loved them, but no one else seemed to know that. A tax collector was a despised and much hated individual. The Romans collected water taxes, meat taxes, road tax, salt tax, duty tax, house tax and poll tax. Because the tax collectors collected for Rome they were listed in the same category as murderers, robbers and ruffians. Their evidence was not accepted in courts of law. Their money was not accepted as alms for the poor and destitute.

The third thing Jesus saw was that Matthew and his friends were sinners. He showed His protest against the ill treatment of them by calling one as His disciple and by eating with others. His answer was given in verse 32.

But the real clue to His ministry is found in verse 31, (read this). He not only played physician, but He was able to be a real live doctor.

(Illustration of Black preacher in Chicago and calling in another doctor)

This may sound funny to us, or even strange. But ~~xx~~ are you willing to call in Another Doctor in your life and stop being your own self-made doctor? But more importantly, are you willing to share this doctor with others?

What would you say about the ~~xx~~ person seated next to you if you knew that he or she was an ex-convict? Or was a prostitute? Or a member of the Mafia? Or a gambler? When we think of it in this light, church becomes an altogether different affair doesn't it? Would you be able to see the three things in that person that God sees? That he is unique, that he is loved by God, and that he is a sinner in need of salvation?

This is what God wants us to see and feel, and work with, with all of His creation. Instead we just see, a drunkard, a divorced person, a law-breaker and so on. God wants us to see someone in need of Him.

(Illustration little boy and sunshine to his brother)

We need to share the Sunshine we have which is spelled Sonshine. We are living in a world today of confused, stumbling people with no where to turn. We need to give them the message that there is a physician who can heal, and cleanse and lift them from the despair of life. But we can only do this if the "Doctor is

In," our lives. If He isn't, we need to invite Him in. I would urge you this
y, before you leave this service to tell that person sitting next to you,
"God loves you, and so do I," and really mean it. Our world needs a revival as
never before and it can only begin if you and I are willing to live and act as
our Saviour Jesus Christ has shown us.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost August 19, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Guest Organist
Beth Feder and Karen Pfabe - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude: "Take My Life, & Let it Be" Bradbury
*Hymn No. 7 "Rejoice, ye pure in heart"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Lord, whose way is perfect, help us, we pray thee, always to trust in thy goodness; that, walking with thee and following thee in all simplicity, we may possess quiet and contented minds, and may cast all our care upon thee, for thou carest for us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 182 "Fairer Lord Jesus!"
Call to Prayer
*Pastor: The Lord be with you
*People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Appalachia Meditation" Moore
Baptism of Child - Stephanie Joann Czewitz -
Daughter of Sandra and John Czewitz
Solo: "Jesus Loves Me" Sung by Karen Maloney
Scripture: Nehemiah 8: 1-12
Sermon: "Corrective "I" Surgery"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 120 "Joy to the world!"
*Benediction Three Fold Amen

*Postlude "Reach Out" Copeland
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Ed McCormick in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Covert (Daisy & Raymond) and Arthur Covert. Serving as Ushers today are: *Robb Vinroe, Randy Dellen, Bob Dellen
Deacon & Mrs. George Eichhorn will be at the door today. Nursery will be provided today by Virginia Mangel. The attendance last Sunday was 133
A good many of our members are camping at Pymatuning this weekend.
Early Church will be held thru Sept. 9th this year before reverting back to the fall and winter schedule. Mike Nazaruk & Mrs. Mid Diefenderfer will be visiting the hospital this week.
Rev. Link is Chairman (of this Community) for the Christian and Witness Follow Up Committee for the Leighton Ford Butler Crusade at Butler Intermediate H. S. Auditorium - Oct. 14-21. There will be 4 classes held in 3 Different Churches. They are listed on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Additional pamphlets are also in the Narthex.
The new "Our Daily Bread" booklets are in the Narthex. Pick up your copy today before they are all gone. If you would like to make a donation there is a box provided. The money is returned to the company that sends them to help defray the cost.
We are grateful for all the Liturgists - Richard Mangel, Bob Dellen and Paul Pfabe, who helped with the Services during the past month.
Our Sincere thanks to Chet Stauffer who brought the Message to us one Sunday - and quite a message it was. We have certainly enjoyed hearing Kitty Feder's music and we are certainly grateful for her being able to be with us since Kay has been away.
A special thanks to Roland Thompson for playing such beautiful music for us.
Thanks to all the men and women from the choir and for all those who filled in to sing solos and duets. Lois Wogan needs all the baans and fixings for the Soup Day coming up in October. Call her she will even put them up if necessary.
board.
Teen dance - Aug. 24 - St. Michael's Youth - see bulletin.

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
OF SAGAMORE**

July 12, 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----Through It All-----# 43

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----It Is No Secret-----#581

SCRIPTURE: Nehemiah 8:1-12

SERMON: "Corrective "I" Surgery"

**INVITATIONAL HYMN-----Amazing Grace-----#107

**BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.....

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you so desire.

** Please and

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF THE WEEK.....**

THANK FOR VBS

- * **July 19, 1998: 6 - 8 PM** Youth Group Meeting.
We are planning a special event. You must be present to participate.

- * Please keep the BIL0 receipts coming every little bit adds up.

LEASA -

HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

July 13-----Julie Abel
July 14-----Tracie Fairman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY...

TO ANYONE WHO WE MIGHT FORGET

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6

*ZELA - CANNON (GEORGE MATTHEW)
JEAN
LYNN - AL. PR.*

Scrip: Nehemiah "Corrective 'I' Surgery"
8:1-12; Text: Neh. 8:10b, 12

lif many repec s matt'r perspec; depen circumwat ~~xxxxx~~
res, ons 2 circum wil B=illus barbr hangovr & shav Re
Can alway find way let selvs off hook if wil 2serch
peop Israel no dif any1 us this morn
do U supos atitud was wen slav mak briks
"Boy wat crum lif, eat, lousy, work, sleep & why born?
Wen releas bondag atitud chang right? Wrong!
Talk stupid ldrs, Mos is wors, mak camp, unmake; all C
sand, mor sand, hot sun, cold nite Why me?
Or pictur liv & do evil & prophs tel capticity
Fianl hap & tak 2Babylon & mus sed Why Me
Glimr hop sum return 2Jeru & Ezra among them
rebuild Templ, but wal remain ruins
Now Neh permit go Jeru & wal no bilt Bcuz peop laz
Can only speculate, but peop mus hav let circum dicta
outlk on lif
Outlk 1 of introspec & Neh cum 2 this time & plac
He overcam all obstacles, hurdles & org & motivat
peop
Thru his luv G, & B led, guid by Him whap peopin2
shap & rebuild wal only tak 52 days
vs 1=ask Ezra read law
vss 2-3=Ezra read for them
vs 4a=pulpit wood abuv peop, 5a
vs 5b=peop stud up=illus read G Word sum Ch 2day
Experiment here=ever1 rais arms; Kno wat did?
Not chek neighbor deoporant quit U act prais G
Do U kno wat customary position prayr was?
In Synagog stand position, uprais arm, spread & lift
Hav list can giv sho this so both OT & NT)
I how many turn off by this? Illus Charis in serci
If want rais arms, hands shud no bothr rest; biblicl
& if add meaning 4persn shud condon & encourage
vs 6=examp this & Amens as well (if want do shud do)
thry bowed & is peop want kneel shud do so
Neh & ezra expl law so cud underst wat ment
vss 10-12=instruc 2 rejoic Bhappy & realy say, tak
eyes off self & plac upon G
2oft can only say I this, I that & need perform
Correctiv "I" Surgery in daily liv & this mean focus
on G & wat He duz & is doing our livs
vs 12=wat result this? 4got probs, slavery, rejoic Lord
Mor I read, study G Word I C ther Joy 4us each day
Th Joy Bcuz kno G luv us, no matr wat probs hav
Ca. U say this momn with me, Praise the Lord?
Can U rejoic & rest confident His luv no matr wat
hap 2day, 2morro, or 2morro's 2morro?

SCRIP: NEHEMIAH 8:1-12; SERMON: "CORRECTIVE 'I' SURGERY"

(ILUS BOY BRONZ PLAQ, MEN WHO DYD IN SERVIC, "9:30 or 11?")

MAY JOK BOUT SERVS, BUT NEVR HAD/HAV SERVS LAS ING AS SCRIP 2DAY
NEHEMIAH CAL PEOP 2GETHR 2HEAR TH/LAW RED & WE READ..... VS 1

vs 2, 1ST SEPT 444 BC

VS 4a RED, & OTHERS AS WEL FR 6:00 AM UNTIL NOON -LNG SERVIC???

VS 4=WOODN PULPIT/PLATFORM, ABL 2HOLD 14 PEOP, THEY RED ALSO

VS 5=PEOP STUD, BCUZ REVERNC G'S WORD

THIS BGIN OF F OF TRUMPEETS BGIN N YR, & LAW RED FOR 7DAYS

VS 6=EZRA, PR, GIV BENEDICTIN/BLESING & STANC OF PEOP

(RAIS ARMS! NO CHEK DEORDNT, THIS ACT OF WORSHIP)

PEOP BOW HEDS NO LK UP BCUZ THIS SENS HUMILITY B4 GOD

VS 7=THEZ LEVITES STAN W/EZRA, READ & EXPOUND/EXPL G'S WORD

"PEOP STUD IN PLAC" - THINK STAN 6 HRS!!!!

VS 8=EXPL LEVITES READ/INTERPRET

VS 9=NEHEMIAH - GOVERNOR, THEY INSTRUC PEO NO WEEP - REJOICE

VSS 10-12=CELEBRAT FEAST, GIV 20THRS NO PREPPD - DAY/WK CELEBRAT

GOD BROT THEZ PEO BAK 2JERU BUT HE ALSO BROT THEM 2A POINT OF

KNOWLEDG IN THEIR LIVS

BAKGR AS SLAVS EGYPT & "WHY WAS I EVR BORN?"

RELEAS FR/SLAVRY, WILDRNES WANDR, DESERT HOT/COLD=WAT I DO DESER

SETTL IN PROM LAND, PROPHS, KINGS, IDOLTRY, EXIL BABYLON, & SAY.....

"OTHERS DID THIS, NOT ME, WHY THIS HAPPN TO ME & US?"

NOW THEZ PEO BAK "HOME" & IMPORT THING BGIN TAK PLACE LIVS

WORD OF G IS READ, & WAT HAPPN?? - VS 9b - (READ)

(ILUS DR. DAVID HOCKING & IMPORTANC OF TH/BIBLE)

THIS PLAC BIBL SHUD HAV EVRONES LIF & IT PTS ALL 2G'S WORD

BUT ALSO DIRECTS ANY & ALL AWAY FR/SELF

THIS PROB THEZ PEO, THEY HAD BCUM ONLY AWAR OF SELVS, WHY ME, ETC

THR LIVS WER, "I, I, I, & ME, ME, ME"

(Y NEEDED "CORRECTIV 'I' SURGERY," EYES FR/SELVS 2C THINGS GOI

THIS COMON PROB W/MANY PEOP, ONLY C SELF IGNOR OTHERS NEEDS

WE NEED CHNG SELVS & POINT OUR LIVS 2TH/LORD

(ILUS 4yr OLD & NO GET UP TIL I C JESUS, (SUN & PICTUR))

WE NEED 2 "TURN OUR EYES UPON JESUS" AS THE HYMNWRITR WRITES

(ILUS CHORUS THIS HYMN #621 "HYMNS FOR FAMILY OF GOD)

GOD IS CAL US FR/EYES UPON SELVS, PHAV OUR EYES ON HIM

(ILUS FRENCH REV. FRISNR W/BIBLE & "WAT READ IN TH/LITE?)

WAT DO WE C IN TH/LIGHT? IN JS 74/41-47?

DO WE KNO HIM AS OUR SAVIOR? OR ARE OUR EYES ON SELVS, NOT HIM?

TAK HIM, TRUST HIM 2DAY IF NEVR DUN SO

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

CORNER OF WALKER AND BRUGH AVENUES

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA 16001

REV. RALPH C. LINK
153 KECK ROAD
SARVER, PA. 16055
TELEPHONE 352-1103

TELEPHONE
CHURCH 287-2240

U can if plac faith, trus Him &
turned all 2 His care & keeping
(Illus Easy cum, Easy go)

This shud B abl experience no
qualms or 2nd thots

Sure, hav strugl: ilnes, lose c, face financ probs

Any numbr probs may assail us

But it upward lk & not outwar

It U Xpian rejoic as Js tq1 Disc:

Ur nam written in heaven

Rejoic-G is 4U, who can B aginst

" =Bcuz Js in H Sp say, I
nevr lv U nor 4sake U

" =lif lies ahed fil with
exciting thing G want 2
share

P say Phil 4:4-7 READ

vs 13 lv no doubt why READ

Any Xpian can kno joy Lord if willing
look rt direct & that from self 2 God

Requir Correctiv "I" Surgery & U & I
mus B wil 2mak that correction-

Rejoic 2day & everday 4 it is Joy 2World
4Lord has indeed cum in2 world 4 U & Me

August 2, 1979

Moody Monthly
Communications Office

"Corrective "I" Surgery"

Scripture: Nehemiah 8:1-12

Text: Nehemiah 8:10b, 12

Life in many respects is a matter of perspective. It depends upon our circumstances just what our response to that circumstance will be.

(Illustration of minister going shaved by barber with hangover)

We can always find a way to let ourselves off the hook if we are willing to search for that way. The people of Israel were no different than any one of us here this morning. What do you suppose their attitude was when they were enslaved and held in bondage by the Egyptians and forced to make bricks all day? I am sure they would have been heard to say, "Boy what a crummy life. Just work, eat lousy meals, and get a little sleep to be rested to do more work."

~~My~~ why was I ever born?"

But when they were released from bondage and escaped to wander the wilderness toward the promised land, their attitude completely changed. Right? Wrong? I am sure they would have been heard to say, "Talk about stupid leaders. This Moses has to be the dumbest thing on feet. Here we are setting up camp one day, taking it down the next. Move here, move there. All we ever see is sand and barren waste and feel the hot sun all day, and the desert cold at night. What did I ever do to deserve this?"

Or picture them living the years they did doing the evil and wicked things which the prophets kept telling them would bring them back to captivity. In all of those years their lives were lived in self-centered ways. Finally they were overcome and taken captive by the great world power of Babylon. But even in this captivity they probably felt no responsibility for why and how they got there. It was someone else who did it and "Why has this happened to me?"

But then a glimmer of hope arose in some of the hearts of some of these people because they were permitted to return to Jerusalem and to begin rebuilding the Temple. But strangely enough the Temple was rebuilt, but the walls still remained in ruins. This is where Nehemiah comes upon the scene. Those who been privileged to go to Jerusalem to do this rebuilding, were now involved in laziness.

ness. We can only speculate as to this situation. But one thing is certain, and that is the people were letting their circumstances dictate their outlook on life. Their outlook was one of personal introspection and this is the situation Nehemiah came to as he sought to continue the restoration of Jerusalem. With all of these hurdles to overcome Nehemiah must have been a great organizer and motivator of people. He was set up by King Artaxerxes as the Governor of Jerusalem. But ~~whatever~~ through his love of God and his being led and guided by Him, Nehemiah was able to whip the people into a strong working force and so the walls were completed in the record time of 52 days.

So Ezra who had come to Jerusalem as the priest of the people and who had been responsible for the rebuilding of the Temple, was now called upon by the people to read the book of the law for the people to hear.

So Ezra opened the book and all the people stood up, (vs 5), this was out of reverence for the Holiness of God's Word. This is still done in some churches today, especially when the Gospels are read from the New Testament.

Now let's perform a small experiment. Everyone raise your arms, lift them up. Do you know what you just did? No, we weren't checking to see if your neighbors deodorant quit. You were in the act of praising God. Do you know what the customary position of prayer was? In the Synagogue it was a standing position with arms spread toward heaven and lifted up. I can give you an entire list telling and directing this in both the Old and the New Testaments. But how many people want to get turned off by this attitude of prayer? I have been in different services where someone during the prayer raised their arms, and I heard people say, "Did you know there were charismatics in that service?" When it is directed in this way, people are usually classifying these people as some sort of freaks or religious nuts. But if any of us may feel more comfortable raising our arms while engaged in prayer, this should not bother the rest of us. It's Biblical, and if it aids to make worship that much more meaningful for that person, we should not only condone it, but encourage it. This is part of what we read in verse 6, (read it), even with Amens, and if the spirit moves

to say Amen, let the Spirit move. But then the people bowed to the ground in act of humility in prayer. Here again, if someone wishes to kneel while praying, none of us should think twice about it.

Nehemiah and Ezra, and the other men explained the book of the Law to the people so they could understand what it meant. They were instructed, verses 10-12, to be happy and rejoice.

But what was really being directed their way was that they were to take their eyes off themselves and place them upon God. It is when you and I forget the "I" part of our conversation that we can become what God wants us to be. Too often we can only speak about what we have done, or will do, or what we think, or what we know. We need "Corrective "I" Surgery," performed to remove that "I" from our daily living. This is done by focusing our attention upon God and what He has done and is doing in our daily lives.

What was the result of this? We read in verse 12. (read verse), of the joy which began to radiate from their lives. What happened to them? They forgot all about belonging to the Babylonians and being slaves. They forgot all of their problems and just rejoiced in the Lord.

The more I read God's Word and study it, the more I am convinced that there is one basic thing which stands out above all others. To me this is the recurring theme of the Joy which should be ours as we live each day. But in order for this Joy to be manifest we need to first understand why we can and should have Joy in a world filled with problems and concerns and cares and troubles. This Joy should be ours because we know that God loves us and that no matter what may befall us we are in His care and keeping. Can you say this morning with me, "Praise the Lord?" Can you rejoice and rest confident in His love no matter what may happen today, tomorrow, or tomorrows tomorrow? You can if you have placed your faith and trust in Him and turned it all over to His care and keeping.

(Illustration of Wall Street Journal Cartoon, Easy Come, Easy Go).

This we should all be able to experience without any qualms and almost without second thoughts. Sure, we all have struggles each and every day. We may get a setback of almost anything. We may learn of illness, wreck a car, face financial problems. Any one of a number of things may assail us and beset us. But it is the upward look, not the outward which can and does give us this Joy in the Lord.

If you are a Christian, rejoice as Jesus urged His disciples to do, for your name is written in heaven.

Rejoice, because if God is for you, who can be against you?

Rejoice, because Jesus said in His Holy Spirit, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Rejoice, for the life that lies ahead is filled with all of the exciting things God wants to share with us

Paul sums this up very well in the 4th chapter of his letter to the Philippians, the 4th through the 7th verses, (Read them). He completely sums it up in the 13th verse where he leaves no doubt why he can rejoice even in the midst of the difficulties of life.

Any Christian can know the joy of the Lord if he is willing to look in the right direction and that direction must be from self to God. This requires "Corrective Surgery" thought, and you and I must be willing to make that correction.

Rejoice, today and everyday, for it is Joy To The World, for the Lord has indeed come into the world for you and me.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Butler, Pennsylvania

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 26, 1979

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor

Mrs. Kitty Feder, Guest Organist

Beth Feder and Karen Pfabe - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

Prelude: "Adagio" Beethoven

*Hymn No. 290 "Stand up, stand up for Jesus"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "God of mercy: forgive and
corrent the wrong we have done this day. We have
turned from the way your Son Jesus Christ set forth,
and we have not cared for our neighbors. We have
permitted pride to blind and anger to burn, and we
have failed to live the new life you have given to
us. We come to you today with little to offer except
ourselves, and our sins, begging mercy in the name of
Jesus Christ. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Hymn No. 303 "Come, ye disconsolate"

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Intermezzo"

Mascagni

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23: 1-7

Sermon: "SALT I"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 286 Who is on the Lord's side"

*Benediction Three Fold Amen

*Postlude "Surely Goodness and Mercy" Smith

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by

Mr. & Mrs. William Thompson in memory of Mrs. Anna

Post (Shirley's) "Grandmother"

Fres. & Mrs. Richard Mangel will greet the Congregation.

Serving as Ushers today are *Richard Mangel, Don

Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.

Nursery will be provided today by Barb Vargo and

Debby Johnston.

The attendance last Sunday was 130

William Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the

Hospital this week.

Monday - 7:30 - Women's Mary Prugh Circle meeting.

Tues. - 7:30 - Sunday School and Board of Christian

Education Meeting (Teachers Also).

The new Daily Bread booklets are in the Narthex. Pick

up your copy now. A box is provided if you wish to

leave a donation to help defray the printing of these

booklets.

Early morning church will be held thru Sept. 9th this

year. Sept. 9th will also be promotion Sunday.

New Members will be received on Sept. 16th. If you

know of anyone wishing to join the Church - please

put a slip of paper in the offering plate or let

the Pastor or Bea know.

Rev. Link is Chairman (of this Community) for the

Christian and Witness Follow Up Committee for the

Leighton Ford Butler Crusade coming Oct. 14-21 at the

Butler Intermediate High School Auditorium. There

are classes being held now (4) in 3 Different Churches.

Please note these on the Bulletin Board in the

Narthex. Additional pamphlets are also in the

Narthex.

September 9th there will be no Church School - Rally

Day (Promotion Day) will be held during Morning

Worship.

Wed. - 7:30 P.M. - COUNCIL MEETING - this has been

set up one week early due to important papers that

have to be gone over before the 1st of Month.

"Salt 1"

Scrip: 2 Sam 23:1-7; Text: 2 Sam. 23:5; Mt. 5:13

expl Salt 2 etc

no aggru merits etc, but anothr treaty not kept
But ther treaty exist sinc creat & only chang 2
strengthen 4 peop involv

K Dav: end lif, dy 70 & thez last words

vs 1=anooint, set apart

vs 2=G spok & wat he try speak

vs 3=remember comis giv by G

vs 4=qualif of ruler

vs 5=sho Dav honesty=5a

" 5b=Remembr cov 2 Sam 7;12-16=Sol & Js

" 5c=No underst all but kno portion of

" 5d= his desir

" 5e=Speak agin thos persecut Abe seed, Jews

Belial mean worthless person

Here see Cov/Treat & futr histry G folo thru mirac way

G creat man liv etern, sin, seperat & so mus redeem in

form underst: If superman peop no identfy

(Illus ants & boy)=Jn say Word flesh & dwell among us

Mosaic law requir sacrif=bull, goat, lamb

G plan 4 Js 2B this=Titus 2:14

Assurance: this 2sho thoz cum aftr & sceptic Js true

Isa 45:17=G sho in OT & peop lk 4 it

G no break treaty lik man He keep

Js sed=Lo I with U: I send comfortr

Love=G had concern & this is His luv=1 Jn 3:1

P say Rom 5:8

Here all ingredients 4 Treaty

Tak 1st letters=Sacrif, Assurance, Luv, Treaty & U

iv Salt

This wat G want from us & Js sed=Mt 5:13

We 2B element heal, clens, preserv & 2 do requir we B

diff from world in livs

(Illus Missionary & Dr. Sho Js)

This wat G want from all us

This only Salt treaty world need & if all mankind

wud hav Js Xp harts, livs, no need othr treaties

But kno Xpians minority & up 2us 2sho world wat Js

Xp can do & mean in our livs

Let us Bgin 2day by sho luv of Js 2 any & all we

meet & Bcum=Salt of the earth as Js sed we R &

shud B

"Salt 1"

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

ext: 2 Samuel 23:5; Matthew 5:13

We are living in a time when world governments want to form alliances and treaties to prevent the buildup of arms and munitions. One of these is the proposed Treaty called Salt 2. This stands for Strategic Arms Treaty number two. I am not going to argue the merits or shortcomings of this treaty this morning. I will only simply say that I do not believe it is going to solve our care and concern that the Russians will not drop their nuclear bombs if they sign it. If given the chance to overcome us in that particular manner, I believe that they would break any treaty they had signed.

But I also believe that there has been a Treaty in existence ~~for~~ since creation and the only change in it has been to improve it and strengthen it for the protection of those involved.

King David came to the end of his life an old man looking back over his reign prior to his death. It is at this point that we approach our Scripture for this morning. First we read that these are the last words of David, and what he was of God, (verse1). He was anointed, set apart. Then he tells how God spoke to him and the Word of the Lord was what he tried to speak, (verse2).

The commission given to him by God is something he remembers, (verse 3), and he gives the qualifications for being that ruler, (verse4). But King David was a completely honest man both in his reign, and also as one who looked at his own life and evaluated it. It is always easy for us to look at others and to determine where they are wrong and acting in ways contrary to what we believe should be taking place. But it is quite another story to look at ~~ourselves~~ ourselves in an objective light and see where we so often fall short of the mark. Thus it is that David says, "Although my house be not so with God."

Here he is saying that his life, his household, his family and a lot of other things about his life and kingdom are not what they should be, (verse 5a).

"yet," he states, "He hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in

all things, and sure," (verse 5b). He is stating that God made a covenant, a Treaty with him, and it is not contingent upon certain conditions which God ~~gives~~ will either bestow, or take away at will depending upon his actions or the actions of his family. It is a Treaty, "Ordered in all things, and sure." David is actually looking back to the promised Treaty or Covenant which we find recorded in 2 Samuel 7:12-16. We read here that A Son of David is going to build a house for the Lord. This of course is Solomon. But more than this God is pointing out that He will continue the throne of David forever, this is a reference to that reign being carried on through Jesus Christ. He says, ~~xxx~~ "I will be His Father, and He shall be my son," not only applies to Solomon, but to Jesus as well. And so David perhaps not having all of the understanding of this, but yet, knowing a portion of it says, "For this is all my salvation," (verse 5c). But more than that, "And all my desire," (verse 5d). But again, he is honest enough to realize that everything is not what it should be in his kingdom, and so he concludes, "Although He make it not to grow," (verse 5e). He knows that he is not going to see all of this happen and God is not going to bring it about in his lifetime. But David speaks out against those who would persecute Abraham's seed, or the Jews, (verses 6, 7). The word "Belial" stands for a worthless person, and so "Sons of Belial" are worthless people within the kingdom.

Here we see the promise of a Covenant or Treaty and in future history God followed through on this in a miraculous way, and that Treaty is still in force today.

God created man to live in eternal fellowship with Him. But man turned from God and followed the leading of Satan instead. Thus with sin came a separation from God. So God determined that He was going to establish a Covenant, or a Treaty with mankind, but in order to do so He had to put in an appearance in a form everyone could understand. If He appeared on the scene in a superman type role, people could not identify with Him. The only thing that you and I can understand is something just like us.

(Illustration of ants and needing to be like them)

This is what John is saying when he states, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." It was God come to earth in the form of a human. But God also knew that man needed to identify with this human in another way. The old Mosaic law set forth that there had to be a sacrifice for sin. This required the shedding of the blood of bulls and goats and lambs. These animals became the substitutes for the sins of man. So God planned this in such a way that Jesus became the Sacrifice for mankind. Paul writing to Titus states in that letter chapter 2, verse 14, (Read). This indicates clearly the sacrifice made and from it those who accept Him and believe on Him, are become God's "Peculiar people". But God knowing the mind of man, especially those who would come after, who never had the opportunity to meet Jesus face to face would be filled with doubt and sceptical of all of this. In order to overcome this God had to give assurance that this is so. But strangely enough He began this act of assurance long before Jesus ever appeared on the scene. In the book of Isaiah chapter 45, Verse 17, we read, (Read this). Can't you see, that God in His infinite wisdom and His concern for His creation had all of this planned long before it ever came to fruition? Can't we look at these circumstances and feel a deeper love for God because of what He has done for us? But this assurance was not, and is not like the things of the world. Men make Treaties and Covenant together, and it is broken in a short time.

(Illustration of boy mules and chickens).

God is not like this. He gives His Treaty and He sticks by it. Jesus said, "Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world. I will not leave you or forsake you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. I will pray the Father and He shall give you another comforter that He may abide with you forever." We may not be able to see Jesus Christ in person at the present time but we can know Him in our lives in the form of His Holy Spirit living in us and motivating us each day.

But what has made God show such a concern for His creation? The only answer can be, "Love." The Apostle John tells us in his first letter, the third chap-

ter, the 1st verse, (read this). And the Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 5:8. (Read this). Here we see all of the ingredients for the Covenant or Treaty from God. If you take the first letters of the words, Sacrifice, Assurance, Love, and Treaty, you come up with the word Salt. This is what God wants from each of His children. He has given this treaty and we are a part of it if we are willing to be what we should be in this life. Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:13, (read this). This means we are to be the element which preserves this Salt Treaty. It means we are to do the work of salt in purifying, in healing, in cleansing and all of the other things which salt accomplishes. To do this requires that we are different from the world, and that the influence of Jesus Christ in our lives is such that we stand out from the rest of the world in a very distinct manner.

(Illustration of Missionary and showing Jesus)

This is what God wants from all of us. This is the only Salt Treaty the world will ever need. If all of the people in all of the world would have Christ living in their hearts and lives there would be no need of Salt 2, 3, 4, or any other agreement between Russia and Us. But we know that Christians are in the minority and thus it is up to us to show the rest of the world what Jesus Christ can do and mean in our lives. Let us begin today by showing the love of Jesus to any and all we meet and become the "Salt of the earth," as Jesus said we are and should be.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 2, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Guest Organist
Helen Hilliard, Jeff Knauer - Acolytes

* * * * *
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

Prelude: "Salute D'Amour" Elgar

*Hymn No. 289 "Soldiers of Christ, arise"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "Father, we pray for the labor we have left undone. We know that we have not been completely true. We have sinned through not being completely disciplined in work; we have looked for payment, even when our work has not been completed. Father, we know that you understand because you lived and worked among us; so it is with a sense of penitence that we ask your forgiveness once again. Through Christ we pray. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Hymn No. 191 "Breathe on me, Breath of God"

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Burceuse"

Godard

Solo: "I'll Be A Friend of His"

Sung by Howard Bolam

Scripture: Ezekiel 27:1-9

Sermon: "CRYING OVER UNSPILLED MILK"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 292 "Onward, Christian soldiers"

*Benediction Three Fold Amen

*Postlude "Let's Just Praise the Lord" Gaither

* * * * *
*Congregation Standing * * * * *
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Edward Walker in memory of Lawson Hindman. (Gloria's Father)

Serving as Ushers today are *Charles Penar, Dan Bosko, Robert Knauer and Dave McMillin.

Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Diefenderfer will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Betty Carney, and Diane Hollefreund.

> Early Church will continue thru next Sunday.

Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be visiting the Hospital this week.

> Next Sunday there will be no Church School. *COMMENT 9:30*

> 10:00 A.M. Rally Day Service and Promotion Sunday

> Hospitalized: Mrs. Mae Dutter, Lewis Kradel and Roy Andrews. *IS OUT SANDRACH*

> Leighton Ford Crusade coming Oct. 14-21 at the Butler

Intermediate High School Auditorium.

Classes are being held now in 3 different churches.

Additional pamphlets are in the Narthex. *- PICK-UP*

> New members will be received on Sept. 16th. If you know of anyone wishing to join the Church - please put a slip of paper in the offering plate or let the Pastor or Bea know.

"let me come in where you are weeping, friend
and let me take your hand;

I who have known sorrow such as yours;
for I can understand

Let me come in, I would be very still
beside you in your grief;

I would not bid you cease your weeping, friend
for, tears do bring relief.

Let me come in, I would only breathe a prayer,
and hold your hand,

For I have known a sorrow such as yours,
and I can understand!"

The attendance last Sunday was 149

"Crying Over Unspilled Milk
Scrip: Ezek. 27:1-9; Text: Ezek 27:2

Question* Shortes vs Bibl? Js Wept
" " =How many evr sed such & such happn & did?
Most identfy with this, pophs of sorts
(Illus Titanic & sinking)
Question=How many bin tol such, such happn & no Bliev
laff, sneer, scof?
Most identfy this also
Man name Ezek, priest mong Jew exils liv Babylon, tol
peop liv Tyre & command weep 4 destruct 2cum 2 theim
Peop react=Laff, & wat kind nut this etc
All Ezek proclaim mesag 2sed same thing
Tyr shipbild port, peop liv porsperous
all material posses, no need
ship cum all ovr known worl, trade, sell, etc
Ezek compar Tyr 2ship, tol linen sail, cedar Leb & shi
of state bilt best money cud buy
Tyr bot & sold all ovr world, had world grasp
But with all this G striv 2bring 2repentence
Tim proph no end in site 2wealth prosperity
Chap 27 follo-up 26 & 26 tell specif things
vs 7=say K Babylon invad city & destroy
vss 11 & 12=tell tru prophcy yr 2 aftr say, but last
part 12 no cum tru & so Ezek not proph of old
Nebuchadnezzar took 13yr 2conquer
peop flee 2island & start nu Tyre
300 yr latr Alex Grt bild causeway 2isle and overthr
& throancient city in2 sea=vs 12b & 2day spred nets
Ezek comand 2 Cry Ovr Unspill Milk
Hgt prosperity peop & no need 2fear this point
saf & secur
kwil 2B G man & speak out; Js wept ovr Jeru same
Paralel USA & afflunc & abundanc unequal
U & I need 2B Cry Ovr Unspil Milk Bcuz bubl burst
G want this from U & Me, mus stan 4th as proph G
canno continu watch neighbor, frend, relativ die in
Godles deth, G hold us accountabl
Valu system out whack=(Illus boy, Batlstar Galactica)
Wher partns giv directs 4lif? Pretend, mak Bliv neces
part growpp, but concern paretn instil valu child
Wher any1 cud giv propr influ lif?
If this boy liv nex door 2U wud U bring SS, Church?
How many him liv nex door, cross st., dwn block?
How many mor mus die glu snif, dope B4 U & I Bgin
Cry ovr Unspill Milk?
(Illus He's None Of Our Business)
Canno giv 2evr caus, but this shud sho giv outsid ch
necessary; shud hav concern 4 unsav unchurch & seek
2 find & deal with them

Drunks, adulterers, thieves, prostitutes etc are need 2B
confront claim Js Xp

U & I mus mak that confrontation
Or do we stand back Bcuz Satan intimidate?

(Illus 2men & taxi & karate lesson)

We want 2B thot well of & if lower self 2 talk bout

Js Xp may B call kook, or nut & so keep silent

our desir shud B lik littl girl from slum

(Illus girl minister & Light of World)

Let us Bgin 2 B Crying Ovr Unspilled Milk lik Ezek

2 " C as he saw & shown by G that the affluence,
& the butiful things lif only temporary and giv way
2 decay & destruct

Let us not only Cry 4 that not yet Spilled, but

" go out & do sumthing about it by sharing

Js Xp 2 a communy in need G's salvation.

"Crying Over Unspilled Milk"

Scripture: Ezekiel 27:1-9

Text: Ezekiel 27:2

Let me ask you a question. Does anyone know what the shortest verse in the Bible is? Jesus Wept, that is correct. Now let me ask another question. How many of you have ever said to someone, "Such and such is going to happen," and it did? I think most of us can identify with that can't we?

(Illustration of sinking of Titanic)

Now let us ask the question how many of you have been told by someone, "Such and such is going to happen, if you don't do so and so," and you scoffed or even laughed? I imagine that once again we can all identify with this.

A man named Ezekiel, who was a priest among the Jewish exiles living in Babylon told the people living in the city of Tyre that God had commanded him to weep over their city for the destruction which was to come. The people must have had the normal reaction to this revelation. "Listen to this nut. Did you ever hear anything so stupid? We are living in the best of times and this idiot comes along and not only tells us this is going to be destroyed, but he gives us some baloney about some spirit telling him to do this. Boy, how insane can some people get?" Everywhere that Ezekiel must have gone and proclaimed this message he ~~was~~ received the same reception. He was talking to a people who were living very well and prosperously. They had all of the material goods they needed. They lacked for nothing because Tyre was a shipbuilding seaport. Ships were not only made there ^{BUT} they converged on Tyre from all over the then known world, for repairs and for trading. In his message, Ezekiel compared Tyre to a ship. He told of how they had the best of everything for that ship. Cedar of Lebanon. Fine linen for the sails and each article of the ship of state was made up of the very finest that money could buy. Tyre bought and sold all over the world. In fact they had the world in their very grasp. But with all of their material possessions, God was striving to get to them ^{BECAUSE} ~~that~~ there was a need for repentance. But at the time of this prophecy there was no end in sight to the wealth and prosperity they were having. ~~In 26:14, Ezekiel was privileged~~

~~to render a prophecy for God which looked utterly ridiculous, (read this).~~

Scripture in this 27th chapter is really a follow-up of chapter 26. It is in the 26th chapter that he ^{points} ~~xxxx~~ some specific things out to the people of Tyre.

In the 7th verse he tells of the king of Babylon invading their city and destroying it, (read this).

In the 11th and the 12th verse, (read them), his prophecy came true in a year or two following the prophecy. All except the last part of the verse 12. Because of this they said that old Ezekiel was not the prophet that everyone thought he was. It took Nebuchadrezzar 13 years to conquer the city. During that time many of the people escaped to an island and began another Tyre there. For all intents and purposes Ezekiel was wrong. But approximately 300 years later, Alexander the great appeared on the scene. He built a causeway out to the island and threw all of the remains of the ~~A~~ncient city into to the sea. Ezekiel had prophesied, verse 14, and this is exactly what you will find today if you visit that place ^{along} ~~in~~ the Mediterranean Sea. It is a place where fishermen spread their nets to dry.

But you see, Ezekiel was commanded to "Cry Over Unspilled Milk." This was at the height of the prosperity of these people. They had no real need to fear at this point. They were safe and secure and had all they wanted or needed. But Ezekiel was willing to stand forth as God's man and proclaim the message God had laid upon his heart. Jesus wept over Jerusalem when it too was in the height of its power and glory. He told of the destruction to come, but there were those who laughed and would not believe.

There is a parallel for the United States in all of this. We look about us and we can see an affluence and abundance such as has not been equalled in all the world before us. Even Tyre and Jerusalem didn't have the wealth and prosperity which the average American enjoys. If we really have a concern for other people, you and I need to be "Crying Over Unspilled Milk." There is going to come a time when this present bubble ~~has to~~ ^{MUST} burst. We cannot go on living in the

manner to which we have become accustomed. We must begin to look at other people and begin to share our faith with them. This is not only a must, but it is required of us by God. If we continue to sit back and silently watch neighbors and friends and relatives live and die their godless lives, God is going to hold us accountable.

You and I must begin to stand forth as the prophets of old and weep before God about the present ~~national~~ local, national and world condition. Our value system is all out of whack. One of the saddest commentaries which depicts our present day thinking and living was ~~xxxx~~ contacted out this week by a boy of 12 or 14.

(Illustration of boy and battlestar Galactica)

Where were his parents in giving this boy real directions for his life? We know that pretend and make believe are a large part of the growing up process but it takes real concerned parents to instill in the lives of all children the values of the real things of life. Where was anyone who could have been a proper influence on this young man's life? If this boy were known to you, would you have taken time from your busy schedule to see that he got to Sunday School and Church here? How many of him are there living next door to you, across the street from you, or down the block from you? How many more must we read about in the paper dying needlessly of glue sniffing, or overdosing on drugs before we begin to Cry Over that Unspilled Milk?

Where Jesus Christ is not in the center of things, and His Word is not living in the heart and life of someone, there is chaos, and despair, and that ship of state is on the way to being sunk. But do we care? Or are we perhaps like the man begging on the street? (Illustration of little girl and mother saying, "He's none of our business.")

We cannot give to every caude or help everyone who needs help, but they are our business. This is why we should be in favor of missions and giving outside of our own church. This is why we should have a concern for the unsaved and the unchurched and seek to find them and deal with them. The drunkard, the people living in adulterous relationships, the thieves, the prostitute, any and all

are in need of being confronted with the claims of Jesus Christ. You and I
are the ones who need to make that confrontation.

Or do we stand in awe of that responsibility and let Satan have his way and intimidate us so we step back. Perhaps we are like the two men who both rushed to get in the same cab on a rainy wet day. The smaller man insisted that the cab was his. The other man said, "Give me one good reason why I should let you have it and not me." The smaller man responded, "I'm late for my karate class." We are intimidated by the fact that we may be thought ill of if we dare witness to our faith to someone and in particular if that someone is related to us. Our desire and attitude should be like the little girl from the slums.

(Illustration of girl and minister "Light of World")

Let us begin "Crying Over Unspilled Milk" much like Ezekiel. Let us see as he was shown by God that the affluence, and the beautiful things of life are only temporary and will one day give way to decay and destruction. Let us not only cry for that which is not yet Unspilled, but let us go out and do something about it, by sharing Jesus Christ to a community in need of God's Salvation.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rally Day (Promotion Sunday) September 9, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Paul Harbison, William Ohl, Speakers
Mrs. Judy Fry, Church School Superintendent
Helen Hilliard, Jeff Knauer - Acolytes

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

Prelude "Medley of kFamiliar Hymns" Morris
*Hymn: "Praise Him, Praise Him"

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,
God is Love, God is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love.

Love Him, love Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love;
Love Him, love Him, all ye little children
God is love, God is love.

Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children,
God is love, God is love;
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children
God is love, God is love.

*Call to Worship - Judy Fry, General Superintendent
Promotion of Students

Hymn: "Oh, How He Loves You and Me" (Sing through twice)

Oh, how He loves you and me!
Oh, how He loves you and me!
He gave His life,
What more could He give?
Oh, how He loves you,
Oh, how He love me,
Oh, how He loves you and me!

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Prayer

Offering

Offertory "Joy"

William Ohl

Flor Peeters

Special Music by Young People

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 22, 23, 26, 32-50

Sermon: "FIVE SMOOTH STONES" Paul and Bill

*Prayer and Lord's Prayer

1. It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
you spread His love to ev'ry-one; You want to pass it on.
2. What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees
are budding
The birds begin to sing: The flowers start their
blooming
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring;
You want to pass it on.
3. I wish for you my friend this happiness that I've
found
You can depend on Him, It matters not where you're
bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top
I want my world to know;
The Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.
I'll shout it from the mountain top
I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

*Benediction

*Postlude Morris

+ + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Campbell in memory of Joan's
"Parents" - Mr. & Mrs. James P. Christy.

Serving as Ushers today are Youth from Church School.

Richard Mangel and George Eichhorn will be visiting
the Hospital this week.

Hospitalized: Bruce Fencil. *out*

Sunday School and Confirmation Class will be at 9:45

and Morning Worship - 11:00 starting next Sunday.

Youth Fellowship will be starting next Sunday

New members received in Church next Sunday.

out *VARIOUS SANDOZ - OUT?*

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Butler, Pennsylvania
 Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 16, 1979
 The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
 Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
 Brian Hollefreund, Dianne Zavacky - Acolytes
 + + + + +
 ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
 Prelude: "Prelude & Fugue in C Major" Bach
 *Hymn 329 "I love Thy Kingdom, Lord"
 *Ascription - Choral Amen
 *Exhortation
 *Confession (In Unison) "O Lord Jesus Christ
 who didst give Thy life for us that we might receive
 pardon and peace, mercifully cleanse us from all sin,
 and evermore keep us in Thy favor and love, who livest
 and reignest with the Father, and the Holy Spirit,
 ever one God, world without end. Amen."
 *Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
 *Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
 *Praise
 *Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
 *People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
 *Doxology No. 551
 Who's Who in the Pew
 Announcements
 Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
 Hymn No. 475 "Sweet hour of prayer"
 Call to Prayer
 Pastor: The Lord be with you
 People: And with thy spirit
 Pastor: Let us Pray
 Prayer and Prayer Response
 Offering
 *****Offertory "Trio" Rheinberger
 Anthem: "Give Me a Faith" Bitgood
 Chancel Choir with Cyndie and Rob Sybert
 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:1-11
 Sermon: "DANGER: REMODELING IN PROGRESS"
 Prayer and Lord's Prayer
 Hymn No. 452 "We would be building"
 Benediction Three Fold Amen
 *Post le
 *** New Members received today Morris

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
 Mrs. Grace Riddle in memory of Loved Ones.
 Serving as Ushers today are: *Rob Vinroe, Bob Dellen,
 Randy Dellen and Mark Fry.
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Davis will be the Greeters at the
 door this morning.
 Nursery will be provided today by

Rob Sybert and Bruce McBride will be visiting the
 Hospital this week.
 Tonight - 6:30 - Teacher's Training - ~~NO~~
 Tonight - Youth Fellowship - Jr. High's - 1 hr. and
 Senior High's - 2 hours.
 We wish to Congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Stepp on
 their 44th Wedding Anniversary today.
 > Mon. - ~~7:30~~ - Fidelity Bible Class Meeting - ~~DINNER~~
 Wed. - 7:30 - Golden Circle Meeting ~~ANNOUNCE~~
 Thurs. - Mary Martha Circle - meet at Church at 10:00
 and go to Sara Snow's Trailer - Bring tureen and hot
 dogs and buns.
 > Sunday - Sept. 30 - 5:30 - Congregational Dinner at
 the Church. Senior Citizens will be honored - they
 do not have to bring any tureens.
 > Every Wednesday - 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal
 > Help is needed Oct. 5 & 6 to make Apple Butter.
 Donations are needed - including brown sugar, white
 sugar and etc. Anyone with canning jars that you
 will not be using - the Church needs them for apple
 butter. All orders should be called in to Virginia
 Mangel (285-3324) by September 26 - order deadline.
 New Members received today are: Mrs. Pam Kaylor -
 Letter of Transfer; Mrs. Mary Ellen Sanko - Profession
 of Faith; Mr. & Mrs. Martin Henry (Marie) - Profession
 of Faith.

- - - - -
 Three things are SO necessary when coming to Church --
 Attitude ---- Anticipation --- Atmosphere
 What is your attitude when you come to church?
 Do you anticipate a move of God and open your heart?
 Do you contribute to the atmosphere wherein God is
 pleased to move?

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of Faith.

Three things are SO necessary when coming to Church --
Attitude ---- Anticipation --- Atmosphere
What is your attitude when you come to church?
Do you anticipate a move of God and open your heart?
Do you contribute to the atmosphere wherein God is
pleased to move?

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SAGAMORE

July 26, 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----The King is Coming-----# 313

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----Sweet Hour of Prayer-----# 439

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 3:1-11

SERMON "Remodeling In Progress"

INVITATIONAL HYMN----Have Thine Own Way Lord----#400

BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US...

At the close of the service, the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you, if you so desire.

**Please stand

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE WEEK...

- **July 26, 1998:** After church, Lisa Bailey will be photographing anyone who has not had their picture taken for the pictorial directory. *ANYONE JUL 26 NOT MEMBERS AFTER BEN*
- **July 26, 1998:** There will be a board meeting after church concerning church parking. *AFTER BEN*
- **August 16, 1998: 7 PM** Paul Turner will be offering a testimony on witchcraft and the occult. Included in the service will be a gospel presentation and a chance for non-believers to receive Christian counseling.
- **August 22 & 29: 9:30am-12pm** The Red Cross will be offering an emergency shelter class to anyone wishing to volunteer their time. Participants must be at least 18 yrs. of age. Call 397-4344 for more info. and to register. The classes will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Plumville.
- There will not be any youth group meetings until further notice, because of lack of participation.

Happy Birthday...

*GERALDINE
NOK NA
HELEN
CONNIE
GARY* July 29-----Byron Depp

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

"A man of words and not of deeds
Is like a garden full of weeds."

"Danger: Remodeling In Progress"
 Scrip: 1 Cor. 3:1-11; Text: 1 Cor. 3:9
 Lis'! Can U hear it? Not B. Pflugh stomach, can't he
 head / Perhaps by tim finish U will hear it.
 Spring AD 56; deleg men ariv Eph home man name Saul
 Tarsus; tent maker, but travel preachr; bin liv Eph 3
 : & 4mer bin Corinth 1 1/2 yr
 Wrot lettr 2 them, but sumhow got lost (4runr US Post)
 Men cma C Saul, now Paul & seek help; Sed: P, serius
 probs Ch Cor. Knu liv mong worst cond but nevr thot
 exist Ch self; L's Sup means 4 drunknes, immorality in
 Ch unblievble; 1 man liv open F's wif & othr membs
 Ch no C anythin wrong; wil U help us?
 P pondr & aftr interrogat bout acusations, dismis &
 promis do wat can by letter
 Can imagin agoniz prayr offr 2 G Bhalf Cor peop &
 aks 4 divine wisdom deal monumentl task
 So P sit dwn, Bgin writ peop this manr=1 Cor 1:1-3
 Foundation warm frendly manr; go on 2 expl Gospl agin
 mak sur underst wat 1st preach ther & this 1st 2chaps
 Chap 3 Bgin compar Blievr & unblievr/babs & men, w
 Cum 2 thos folo cert ldrs=P & appolos
 Pt out, plant sum1 watr, G giv growth=& made 2underst
 watvr went bld bldg & Ch, G 2B glrif & not mortl ma
 Sompr Ch 2bdlg & he contractr=vs Qa=& sum1nce sed=
 G hav no hand, but ours, feet etc & mean we mus work
 (illus only exercise sum peop get)
 Duz this describ any us 2day? Almos all can fit 1 pt
 Quesy=wat U going do bout it? P sez vs 10=Read
 Vs 9b=NaSB=U G's foeld & lead us think f,rm, gardn &
 think this way G mus plow us, cultivat, fertiliz etc
 we 2grow, matur & no spurt here, ther, Xmas/Eastr
 (1t day by day, by day, etc
 (illus man & St. Mattress)
 Sum U mayB wrestl this own famly, wif, hus, childrn
 but this why must Bcum strongr faith & witness 2it
 This why shud B read G's Word, shud pray 4friends
 famlywho no kno Lord & want nothin do Ch or G
 Examp=lady Blong Bib Bliv, preach Ch, husb no want her
 involv Crusade & many peop lik this lik nan=
 (illus attend wen straiten out & tru 2 word)
 This sad
 Vs 9c=U may nevr thot Urself Bldg & neithr hav I
 But as membr Xp's Ch UR part of bldg & wher fit?
 (illus fit dwn here 2fit up ther)
 Can U say that?
 Li! :! Can U hear it now? Is it cum through yet?
 Mayb hav not herd but whil here AMhamrs & toold G
 silently hammer pound away
 U may breath sigh relief wen multi-purp bldg dun,
 but that not end G bld up U or me or congre

2/
 VS 5=WHO R THEZ 2MEN?? - JUS MEN, MINISTR
 EXPL: PEOPL PREFER ONE MINSTR OVR NOTHR: POLO CERT PREACHR, ETC
 BOTH PAUL/APOLLOS PR SAME GOSPEL, & P SAY PERSNL PREF CARNAL
 VS 6=BOTH DO L'S WORK & TH/LORD BRING 4TH TH/FRUIT=IT NOT TH/MAN
 VS 7=G IS IN CONTROL ALL THAT TAKS PLAC, ALL GROWTH, FAITH, ETC
 VS 8=WE R EA 2B FAITHFUL & LET G REWARD AS HE WILL
 VS 9=WE ALL WORK 2GETHR, NO ONE IS G'S FAVRIT, WE R ALL EQUAL
 P SAYS WE R G'S HUSBANDRY=G'S TILLED FIELD, WAT DUZ G REQUIR OF
 TH/FIELD??? IT BRING 4th PRODU, IT IS EXPECTD=(JS & SOWER)
 G MUSB ABL 2PLOW US, CULTIVAT US, SOW US, REAP US, USE US
 IT MEANS WE R 2B INVOLVD & WORK 2GETHR IN TH/CHURCH
 (ILUS EXERCISE, JUMP 2CONCLUSINS, RUN DWN FRIENDS, ETC)
 UNFORTUNATLY THIS HAPPN IN CH, & WORK IS 2B DUN CO-OPRATIVLY
 ALSO NEED 2B ON AN ONGOING BASIS, NOT JUS SPURT HERE, OR THERE
 IT NOT JUS AN EASTER OR A XMAS TYP SERVICE
 WE MUS TRY 2GET OTHRS INVOLVD=(ILUS ST. MATTRESS)
 PERHAP SUM U MAYB STRUGL W/THIS UR OWN FAMLY
 WE NEED STAN STRNGR REGARDLES WAT OTHRS IN FAMLY DO
 (ILUS HUSB NO WANT WIF GO CH, NO GO SELF=DO WON ATEND, FAITH/BIBL)
 (ILUS MAN WUD CUM 2CHURCH WEN GET STRAITENED OUT)
 VS 9b=P GIVS DIMENSIN OF B A BLDG
 EVR THOT SELF AS BUILDING???
 BUT IF U R PART OF TH/BLDG HOW DO U FIT IN????
 (ILUS STONECUTTR & PIECE OF WORK FITTING IN UP THERE)
 C N WE SAY THIS???
 G IS WORK AT REMODEL EA OF US 2MAK US FIT HIS KINGDM ARIV
 THAT WORK IS ONGOING & EA DAY SHUD WORK SUM CHNG IN US
 REGARDLES HOW SMALL, THER SHUD IMPROVMENT
 (ILUS WOMAN, BAD HOME ENVIRONMENT, BUT SHE IS DIFFERENT)
 THIS SHUD TAK PLACE IN EA OF US
 PAUL, SUMS HIS THOTS UP HERE WITH WORDS OF VSS 10-11
 AL. FNDATINS SHUD, MUSB LAID IN JS XP
 IT IS AS THE HYMNWRITER PENNED IT:
 "ON CHRIST THE SOLID ROCK I STAND,
 ALL OTHER GROUND IS SINKING SAND,
 ALL OTHER GROUND IS SINKING SAND."
 CAN U SAY 2DAY, U R STANDING ON THAT ROCK????
 IF NOT, U R INVITED TO CUM TO HIR TODAY

Song few yr ago say, = the beat goes on etc.

How much bldg Being dun Ur lif?

R U 1who mus look everthin thru worldly eyes

Or R U abl 2discern thing ~~xxxx~~ on spiritual lev?

(Illus things stil same.but I'm different)

Can U say that?

Others aroun us shud C Remodeling tak plac our lives
daily & if can't need 2lk livs & mak inventory
wher stan this respect 2Being bilt up by G as part
His bldg.

SCRIP: 1 COR 3:1-11; SERMON: ~~XXXXXXXX~~"REMODELING IN PROGRESS!"

IN SPRING 56 AD DELGATIN MEN ARIV HOM LERND JEW MAN IN EPHEBUS
MNN=FORMRLY KNO AS "SAUL OF TARSUS"

NOW KNOW AS "APOSTL PAUL"

HAD BIN LIV EPH 3YR & 4MERLY BIN IN CO 1 1/2 YRS

H/ WRITTN LETTR 2THEM BUT GOT LOST IN DELIVRY

(SUM THER DESCENDS R IN OUR POSTAL SYSTEM 2DAY)

THEZ MEN CUM 2PAUL & SAY:

THEZ SERIUS PROBS IN CH IN COR

WE KNU WE LIV MID SUM WORST CONDITINS.

BUT NEVR DREAM THEZ CONDITINS WUD BGIN EXIST IN CH ITSELF

THING HAV DEVEL WHER L'S SUPPR BCUM MEANS 4DRUNKNES

IMORALTY RUN RAMPANT IN TH/CH & IT UNBLIEVBL

ONE MAN HAS LIV OPNLY W/HIS FATHR'S WIF

AND TH/OTHR MEMBRS TH/CH NO C ANYTH WRONG IN THIS

WILL U HELP US???

P PONDWAT BIN TOL,INTEROGAT BOUT THEZ ACUSATINS & DISMIS
THEM W/PROMIS 2DO WAT HE CAN BY LETTR

WE CAN WEL IMAGIN HOW P AGONIZ OVR THIS & PRAY BOUT IT

SO P SIT DWN,& WRIT LETTR & WE READ 1 COR 1:1-8=(READ THIS)

HE LAY FNDATIN IN WARM FRENDLY MANNR

HE EXPL GOSPL AGIN 2THEM SO THEY UNDRST WAT 1st PR 2THEM

WHIL THER

THIS FND 1st - 2 CHAPSTHIS LETTR

THEN BGIN CHAP 3 & CP THEM 2BLIEVRs/UNBLIEVRs,

TO BABIES & MATOR MEN/WOMEN

THEN CUM 2CONTENTIN IN DEAL W/CERT MEMBRS WHO R FOLO CERTIN

LDERS

IN TH/CH THER CONVETS OF PAUL & CONVETS OF APOLLOS VSS 1-4

"Danger: Remodeling In Progress"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:1-11

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:9

Listen! Can you hear it? No, I don't mean the growling of Don Kennedy's stomach. Can't you hear it? Well perhaps by the time we have finished this morning you will hear it.

In the spring of the year 56 A.D. a delegation of men arrived at the home of a learned Jewish man in Ephesus. The man was the former Saul of Tarsus, now called the Apostle Paul. He had been living in Ephesus 3 years and had formerly been in the city of Corinth for about a year and a half. He had written a letter to them, but somehow it had gotten lost in ~~the~~ delivery. Evidently some of the descendents of those ancient mail carriers survived to give us our present mail system in the United States. But these men came to Paul to seek his help. "Paul," they began. "There are serious problems in the Church in Corinth. We knew that we were living amidst some of the worst conditions, but we never dreamed that these conditions would begin to exist in the Church itself. Things have developed to the point where the Lord's Supper has become a means for drunkenness and the immorality running rampant in the Church is unbelievable. One man is living openly with his father's wife and other members of the Church see nothing wrong in all of this. Will you help us?" Paul ~~xxxx~~ ponders what these men have just told him and after some interrogation of all of these accusations dismisses them with a promise to do what he can by way of letter.

We can well imagine the agonising prayers he must have offered to God on behalf of the Corinthian people and church, as well as asking for Divine wisdom in dealing with this monumental task. So it is that Paul sits down and begins to write to the people in the Church in Corinth, (read chapter 1:1-8). He lays the foundation in a warm and friendly manner. He goes on to explain the Gospel to them once again to make sure they understand what it was he first preached while there. This consumes the first two chapters of his letter. But then he begins with chapter three to compare them to believers and unbelievers and

to babies and mature men and women. At this point he comes to a main point of attention in the Church in dealing with those who are following certain leaders. There are some who were converts of Paul, some who were converts of Apollos. Each of those converts were arguing who they belonged to. He points out that he ~~was~~ may have planted, but Apollos who remained behind watered, but it is God who gave the growth. They are made to understand that whatever work went into the building of that particular church it is God who is to be glorified and not mere mortals.

Then Paul speaks to them about the Church being a building, and he was the contractor. But the comparison is made to the people in three very distinct ways. First, as seen in verse 9, "For we are laborers together with God."

Someone once wrote something to the effect that God has no hands but our hands, no feet, but ours and so on. Meaning of course that we must be doing the work in the church that God wants and needs done. But another person wrote:

The only exercise some people get is jumping to conclusions, running down their friends, sidestepping responsibility, and pushing their luck.

Does this describe any of us this morning? I am sure that all of us can fit into at least one of the forgoing categories. But the question is, "What are you going to do about it?" Paul answers this in the following verse, (read vs 10).

But Paul also adds in the second part of verse 9, "Ye are God's huasbandry." The New American Standard version has it, "You are God's field." ~~This explains~~ These interpretations place this idea in the realm of gardening, or farming. If we are to think of ourselves as being God's field, then we need to let Him plow us, break the soil, and then cultivate us to get out the lumps and get us smoothed out so He can fertilize us and plant us so we bring forth harvest to Him. This means a growing and maturing in the faith which is continuous and going. It isn't just a spurt here and there, a Christmas and Easter sort of thing. But instead, it is day by day, by day, by day.

(Illustration of man and St. Mattress)

Perhaps some of you may be wrestling with this problem in your family. It may be your wife, or your husband, or one of your children. But this is why it is imperative that we become stronger in our faith and witness. This is why we should be reading and studying God's Word. This is why we should be praying for our families and friends who do not know the Lord, and quite often ~~xxxxxxx~~ want nothing to do with God or the Church. Just this past week I learned of a woman who is a member of a good Bible believing and preaching church who has been forbidden by her husband to have a part in the coming Crusade in Butler. She wants to be a part of it, but he won't let her. Too many people express themselves in this manner. Many of them are like the man who promised to attend (Illustration attending church when straightened out).

This is ~~at~~ sad.

Paul adds one more dimension to the people in the Church when he says, "Ye are God's building." You may have never thought of yourself as being a building. Quite frankly, neither have I. But as a member of Christ's Church are a part of that building. How do you fit in?

(Illustration of fitting it down here, to fit in up there)

Can you say that?

Listen! Can you hear it now? Is it coming through to your hearing yet? Well perhaps you haven't heard it, but while you and I have spent our time here this morning the hammers, and ~~xxxxxxx~~ tools of God have been quietly and silently hammering and pounding away. The work is still continuing even as we are here. You may have been one of those who breathed a sigh of relief when our multi-purpose building was completed. But that was not the end of God's building up of us or the congregation. The hammering and building is still being done by Almighty God. Like the song of a few years ago says, "And the beat goes on, the beat goes on." How much building is being done in your life? Are you one who still must look at everything through worldly eyes? Or are you able to discern things more on a spiritual level?

(Illustration of "things are still the same, but I am different")

Can you say that? Others around us should see the Remodeling which should be taking place in our lives daily and if they can't, then we need to look at our lives and make an inventory of where we stand in respect to being built up by God as a part of His building.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 23, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefreund, Dianne Zavacky - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude: "Voluntary in G Minor" Wm. Boyce
*Hymn No. 11 "Ye servants of God"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Father, give us the Spirit
Your Son has promised us; to make us honest people
again; to know and face the truth; to see ourselves
and cease from laying our defections at your door; to
see your only goodness in our desperate need of you.
Forgive us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 209 "Depth of mercy!"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Trio in D" Rheinberger
Sacrament of Holy Baptism - Erik Vincent Hulick
Dedication of Crusade Workers
Anthem: "My God and I" Sergel
Sung by Lloyd Link and Chancel Choir
Scripture: Acts 10:33
Sermon: "GOOD OLD FOUR I'S"
1. yer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 318 "Nearer, my God, to Thee"

*Benediction
Choral Response "The Lord Bless You & Keep You"
*Postlude: "Improvisation" Morris
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Feder to the "Glory of God"
Serving as Ushers today are *Richard Mangel, Don
Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Erik Vincent Hulick - Born June 25, 1979 - Son of
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Hulick will be Baptized today.
Mr. & Mrs. Gottlob Kradel will Greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Karen Vensel and
Lori Zavacky.
Our Deepest Sympathy to Family and Friends of
Mr. Ralph Cooper who passed away this week.
Bill Thompson and Roy Andrews will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
Next Sunday - Our Congregational Dinner here at the
Church at 5:30. Senior Citizens will be honored -
they don't have to bring any food. The rest of us
will need to bring extra tureens to compensate for
those that need not bring anything.
We are having special entertainment brought in - so
you will not want to miss this also.
SOUP & SALAD DAY - Oct. 7 (Tuesday). Tickets are
now on sale from the Circle Chairman for \$2.00 each.
Carrots and onions are needed. Contact Mrs. Lois
Wogan - tele. 282-1032.
Wednesday - 6-7 P.M. - Youth Choir Practice
Wednesday - 7-8 P.M. - Jr. High Youth Club - Grades
6,7,8.
Wednesday - 7:00 P.M. - Adult Choir (Chancel Choir)
Sundays - 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Youth Fellowship - Grades
9 - 12
Don't forget we are making apple butter Oct. 5 & 6.
Donation are needed - including brown sugar, white
sugar and etc. Anyone with canning jars that you
will not be using - the Church needs them for apple
butter. All orders should be called in to Virginia
Mangel (285-3324) by September 26 - order deadline.
October 21 and 28 are open for Flowers - Contact Bea.
if you would like to have either of these two Sundays.
All of December is open except Dec. 23rd date.

"Good Old Four I's"

Scrip: Acts 10:33; Text: Acts 10:33

Ever considr compar Discips 2U? Paul & Peter?

My compar=Paul not me, Peter is me=lack patience,
impetuous, dislike red-tape get it dun etc.

Wh wud rather hav speak 2 ladies group, men's?

Paul of corse, so isn't rathr surpris Peter spokesman
Sent 4by Cornelius, & Peter went 3 messengr+6 discip
from Joppa & arriv 3:00 P.M. home Cornelius

Peter Jew in home Gentile & crowd peop ther

Vs 29=ask question, (read)

Vs 33=Cornelius ansers & say=Want 2hear G's message

Duz hav familiar ring? Shud Bcuz ever cong say it

But submit=Old 4 I's in operation ea tim G mess pro

Not glasses, but four words Bgin lett'r "I"

Jere. 42:1-3=Gedaliah appt Govnor by K. Nebuchadnezzar

He assassinate by Ishmael & want flee Egypt, take Jer

Say same as Corn.=wat G message 4us?=INQUIR

Vs 4=Jer anser

Vss 5-6=satisfy & say=INFORM us, Instruct us

Jer consult G 10day & cum bak delivr messag & this

was no go 2 Egypt, & no fear King Nebuchadnezzar

Vss 19-22=conclud messag

Jer 43:2-7=Anser him & say, We no Bliev U & G no say

We IGNORE

Did own thing & end up INCAPACITATED as G promis

Here=Gud Old 4 I's as record over, over G Word & if

U think ancient histry, U wrong

This repeat tim aftr tim up 2 present & compar 2many,

many congreg in Xpian Ch 2day

Corr lk 4 nu pastor, pray serch wat kind man want?

(I as ideal ministr)posib suit any congr, but sum1

find sumthin wrong

How wud U vote if man came & gav credentials= Paul

(shipwreck, in jail, caus riot, thrown out town, etc)

If vote agin, U vote agin Apostl Paul

Aftr ministr cum cong say=What G hav as mesag 4us?

His meag B mor luv, mor spiritual, mor generous etc.

They Ignor & say=Wat duz he kno, we do wat we want

Ch is INCAPACITATED Bcuz sum so call Xpians impede it

Worship shud B hilite ea week & we shud B here unles

sik or away. No silly excuse (minister illus)

If mean business 4G U wil B here & lern & gro as shud

Mean mor than attend=priorty ord'r, liv as shud, etc

Trag'y 2day is peop ignor wat G want us 2do

(Ills ministr & widow near church)

Dont let Gud Old 4 I's B part ur lif, let us ask G 2

rid us of our self-wil attitude, indiff, & open harts

livs 2 His messag & then B about it.

"Good Old Four "I"s"

Scripture: Acts 10:33

Text: Acts 10:33

Have you ever considered the lives of ~~xxx~~ Paul and the Disciples and then tried to see which of them most fitted your life? Each of them had certain characteristics which set them apart from each other, just as you and I have certain characteristics which separate us from one another. As I look at these men I can see one which is definitely not my character and I can see one which I believe I am most like. The Apostle Paul is definitely not me. He was a very learned man, a great thinker and organizer and all in all quite a scholar. On the other hand we have Peter who is just the opposite. He was a very common man, nothing more than a common fisherman. He probably came from a very poor family. Add to this the fact that he was unlearned and possessed many qualities which should have kept him in the background as a Disciple. ~~xxx~~ ~~lackedxpatriance~~ One thing he seriously lacked in his life, and that was patience. He wanted things accomplished in short order. He didn't hold with red tape or delay. He was impetuous and did things on the spur of the moment. Therefore, I feel quite a kinship to Peter.

But if we just compare Paul and Peter, which one would you ask to speak to your ladies club, or your men's breakfast. The answer of course is Paul. He in most likelihood would be able to better address the group. So ~~ix~~ isn't it rather surprising then that God would use a common fisherman to be the spokesman for Christianity in the early Church? But this is exactly what was taking place as we read in our Scripture verse for this morning. ~~xxxxxx~~ Peter had been sent for by the Roman Centurion Cornelius. So Peter went with the 3 messengers sent by Cornelius as well as with 6 Disciples from Joppa and arrived at about 3:00 in the afternoon at the home of Cornelius. Here before Peter was all of Cornelius's friends and relatives. We don't know how many, just that it was a group of people. Peter is as perplexed about all of this as anyone else, for here he is ~~in the house~~ a Jew in the house of a Gentile. So he asks, (read verse 29). And Cornelius answers, (read verse 33). He is saying we want

to hear and know the message which God wants us to hear. Does this have a familiar ring to it? It should for it is the same theme which has been ~~said or~~ implied and unsaid, or openly said by all of the congregations ever assembled to hear the Word of God on any given Sunday. But I submit to you that it is merely "Good Old Four "I's" in operation each time God's message is proclaimed. I don't mean people who wear glasses, but instead four words which begin with the letter "I." To explain what I am trying to say I would like you to turn to the 42nd chapter of the Old Testament book of Jeremiah, beginning with the 1st verse.

~~At the time of the people~~ Gedaliah had been appointed Governor of ~~the~~ Judah by King Nebuchadnezzar and had been assassinated by a man named Ishmael. So a group of these people fearing ~~the~~ reprisal ~~of~~ by King Nebuchadnezzar, fled to Egypt taking the prophet Jeremiah with them. This is where this chapter begins.

(Read verses ~~the~~ 1 to 3. They are saying the same thing as Cornelius and his people. "We are here before you, now tell us what God wants us to do." They want Jeremiah to "Inquire" of the Lord.

Jeremiah answers, (read verse 4). Being satisfied with Jeremiah's answer they answer him, (read verses 5 & 6. In effect they are saying, "Inform us," the second of the "Four "I's."

So we read that Jeremiah consulted with God through prayer for 10 days, and then he comes back to the people to deliver God's ~~message~~ message. The gist of the message was not to enter into Egypt, and not to be afraid of the king of Babylon. He concludes his message in verses 19 to 22, (read this).

So after they have heard Jeremiah and his message they answer him, in the 43rd chapter ~~the~~ beginning with verse 2, (read this to verse 7). They were saying to him, "We have heard what you have said, but we don't believe this is what God told you to say, and so we are going to Ignore it." And so they did their own thing and they ended up "Incapacitated," as God had promised they would be. So here we have the "Good Old Four "I's" as recorded over and over again in God's Word. But if you think it is only ancient history you are wrong. All

of this has been repeated time after time right up to the present time and I compare this to many, many congregations in the Christian Church today.

A congregation is looking for a new pastor to replace the one who has gone elsewhere or ^{to} retired. They begin their search by looking for the right kind of man they believe God wants them to have. So they pray about it and meet together and select a man. ~~They begin by saying "We want to hear what God~~

~~wants us to do. You tell us God's message and we will listen and obey." Well,~~
What kind of man do they want?

(Illustration of ideal minister)

Possibly a man of that discription would suit any congregation, but I would venture to say that there would ^{BE} something else to find fault with. How would you vote if a candidate came and these were his past references?

(Illustration of Apostle Paul and his record). If you would have voted against him, you would have voted against the Apostle Paul.

After the minister has been selected the congregation awaits to hear what God has given him to impart. His message has to do with becoming more loving, more spiritual, more liberal ^{IN GIVING} and in general becoming the Christian that God wants each member of the church to be. He "informs" and "Instructs," them. The second of the Four "I's".

And then what is the result of this, "Inquiring" for God's Word, and getting this "Information" and "Instruction?" Well, much of the time it is a complete "Ignoring" of much or most of it. "What does he know? Who does he think he is telling us to love our neighbors? Or to tithe; or to attend church more regularly; or the worship service is the most important thing in the church, etc, etc. And many of the congregation go on contentedly doing their own thing. And the church is hampered and "Incapacitated" because some so called Christians impede it's progress.

This worship service each Sunday morning should be the highlight of the week which God has blessed you with. You should find your place here each Sunday without fail unless you are ill or absolutely cannot make it. All of the

other silly little excuses we use to stay away are merely means to evade the issue. If you really mean business for God, you will be here to learn and to grow and to worship and praise Him.

But it means more than just attendance. It means seeking the message God has brought forth, and then going forth and acting upon it instead of ignoring it and thus helping to incapacitate the congregation. The impact of any congregation is only what each individual member makes it. If the members are willing to put their priorities in order, then the church can be what God wants it to be. ~~If you really mean business for God, you will be here to learn and to grow and to worship and praise Him.~~ But it takes the majority of the members to overcome the "Good Old Four I's" which always lurk around each congregation assembled to hear God's message for them.

One of the tragedies of today's average congregation is much like the incident I read recently of a widow who lived near a certain church:

(Illustration of minister passing house and never offering salvation)

This is sad, but too often true and can only be overcome when members of each congregation begin to have a love for those outside of the church. Don't let "Good Old Four ~~I's~~ I's" be a part of your life. Let us ask God to rid us of this indifference and open ~~our~~ our hearts and our lives to His message, and then be about it.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost Sept. 30, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Brian Hollefreund, Dianne Zavacky - Acolytes

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude: "A Song of Joy" Greener
*Hymn No. 272 "Love divine, all loves excelling"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Lord God, our Saviour, you have been faithful in your promise to deliver us from the guilt of our sins, and make us acceptable to you and your kingdom. But too often I have not been faithful in following my promise to obey your will, and I have not loved my neighbors and enemies. I humbly ask forgiveness, Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 207 "Jesus call us: o'er the tumult"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Soliloquy" Willan
Anthem: "Take My Life" D. H. Williams
Scripture: Acts 26: 12-29
Sermon: "Dance, Song and Wish"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn of Invitation No. 214 "Just as I am"
Benediction

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Sherman in memory of "Son" Norman. Serving as Ushers today are *Alvin Tait, Mike Nazaruk, Gottlob Kradel, Roy Andrews and James McClymonds.

Mr. & Mrs. Dave McMillin will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Judy Vinroe and Robin Kanuer.

The attendance last Sunday was 174.

- Tonight - 5:30 - Congregational Dinner. The Senior Citizens do not have/bring anything except their table service. All others please bring extra tureens to compensate for the food that will not be brought by the Sr. Citizens. There will be really good entertainment that you will want to see.
- Tues. - Oct. 2 - 7:00 P.M. Follow-up Committee meeting.
Wed. - Oct. 3 - 7:30 - Council Meeting
Wed. - Oct. 3 - No Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. - The Newsletter will be published - Please have all material in by Wednesday.
Fri. - Oct. 5 - Anyone who would like to help make apple butter - please come to kitchen Friday morning at 9:30 A.M. Bring paring knife and pan.
- Tonight - No Teacher's Training Class. There will be a class next Sunday evening at 6:30 - 8:30.
- AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY - WE NEED MEN TO SET UP TABLES.
Tues. - Oct. 9 - SOUP AND SALAD DAY. Carrots and onions are still needed. Tickets are \$2.00 and can be purchased at the Brugh Ave. door after Church or from Circle Chairman.
- Our Church has the whole South Side of Butler to distribute Leighton Ford Crusade material. We still need volunteers to help. It will make the load a lot lighter for each of the volunteers if you offer to help. Our Church is the only ones involved on the South Side. Please contact Bea Tait today if you can help. Come in the office or call 283-3328. Next Sunday there will be a short orientation meeting at 1:30 All you will have to do is ring the door bell and invite them to the Crusade and give them your material.
- Harry Burns and Harry Fry will be visiting the Hospital this week.
Next Sunday is Holy Communion 11:00: Monday - 7:00

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SAGAMORE

August 2, 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----There's Just Something About That Name-----#227

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----Because He Lives-----#292

SCRIPTURE: Acts 26:12-29

SERMON "Dance, Song, And Wish"

INVITATIONAL HYMN-----Rescue the Perishing-----#661

BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US...

At the close of the service, the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you, if you so desire.

**Please stand

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE WEEK...

- **August 2, 1998:** After church, Lisa Bailey will be photographing anyone who has not had their picture taken for the pictorial directory.
- **August 15-16, 1998:** The Lordsmen will be here for services at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday. Come and enjoy the music and message of salvation.
- **August 22 & 29: 9:30am-12pm** The Red Cross will be offering an emergency shelter class to anyone wishing to volunteer their time. Participants must be at least 18 yrs. of age. Call 397-4344 for more info. and to register. The classes will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Plumville.
- **September 26, 1998:** Don't forget to keep your calendar open for a day full of fun and fellowship at the church picnic. More details will follow.
- There will not be any youth group meetings until further notice, because of lack of participation.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

FLORENCE

"One must not always think
so much about what one should do,
but rather what one should be.
Our works do not ennoble us;
but we must ennoble our works.

CONG.

Dance, Song And Wish"

Scrip: Acts 26:12-29; Text: Acts 26:18, 29a

In Bowery Mission NY city, song leadr=turn page 154

F ry ey, stubl chin, derlicts turn pag, organ boom
"RESCUE TH PERISH, CARE 4 DYING"

Pastor sat listn, thot many tim herd sing, thot Scott
B or WW II, hoples, drunk, fites; tim aftr tim fed, sobr
patchup & no effect

P impart 2men; Festus=Gov Judea appt by Nero aft Feli
Agrippa=son Herod Agrippa I, 7th & last Herod Grts

He visit & invite hear famous prisner Caesaria

P plead defense, giv acct persecut Xpian, mirac convers

Vs 18a=this P told specif 2do & this DANCE=Hesit step

P & thoz no Bliev Xp involv in & many 2day likewise
Why do peop prefer DANCE insted of SONG?

Reasons: many, embaras famly, wif/husb/frend, 2sum it
mattr get Byond mere religion

(Illus H Robbins, Abstract & Concrete)

Many peop liv this way, luv Ch, Bib, relig, frend gav me

(RELIG WITHOUT SAVIOR, LIKE LAMP WITHOUT OIL)

2many peop think Xpianity mere relig, & relig rules

This mak Xpianity on par frat organds, pay dues etc

Xpianity way of life, lifstyl, not blind duty, but luv

Sum peop DANCE becuz mistakn notion lif/deth

(Illus 2ministers & mistaken post card)

Examp peop & die R ded, but eternal lif 4all peop

Js sed this many times

Fanny Crosby & aftr Civil War tour Bowery & wrot SONG

10yrs Scotty herd & sung & no effect; peop pray etc

Xmas Eve, crutches, infected leg, bloat face dirty etc

Felt he no reform, but brot others, policeman on beat

Dotter no C sinc baby, proud Dad

W t work Interior Dec, War plant Bridgeport, Conn

Thus SONG Js spok 2 P bout; Vs 18b=SONG P sing F&A

Rom Gov no want hear & Jew King A anser=Vs 29a

(Explain Bib scholars & controversy, but I Bliev)

P anser classic=Vs 29 & here WISH thoz Dancs, hear Son

Festus thot relig fanatic; Agrippa unconvinc wat do

Scotty herd SONG, turn from DANCE, but story no end

Mon lef Mission 5:30 AM, Merit Prkwy run down, die

P, stor funeral & next plot cem stone born Mar 1820,

Died Feb 1915=Fanny J. Crosby= writr Rescuer & Rescued

side by side

Hav U herd SONG & ceas DANCE? Or RU stil do Hesit St

Bcuz concern things this world? Concern hus/wif/fam

& wat they say? RU wil 2list 2H SP & folo lead by do

smthin bout yern in hart?

WISH 4ea U 2day=1st hymn 2B sung in hymnals

2nd=all kno Js Xp as persnal Sav & giv invitation

nevr made comit & recomit

SCRIP: ACTS 26:12-29; SERMON: "DANCE, SONG, AND WISH"
 (12th SCOTTY PART I & RIVERS REJOICE MIAMI)
 APOS P STRIV 2IMPART THIS GOSPL MESAG TO THEZ MEN HE CONFRONT
 WHIL IMPRISN IN CAESAREA
 FESTUS=ROMN GOV JUDEA, APPT BY NERO TO SUCCEED FELIX
 K AGRIPPA=WAS K HEROD AGRIPA II, SON OF HEROD AGIPA I AND THE
 7th & LAST OF THE HEROD TH/GRF FAMILY
 IPS WAS VISIT & FESTUS INVIT AGRIPA MEET/HEAR FAMUS PRISNR
 P GIV ACNT PERSECUT XPIANS& DAMASCUS RD MET JS CHRIST
 JS SPCK 2HIM & TEL PREACH VERY "SONG" TRY ERADICATE
 VS 18a=THIS SPECIFIC INSTRUCS CONTRARY WAT P BLIEV
 THIS CUDE CAL "DANCE" UNBLIEVRS INVOLV IN
 CUDE CAL=HESITATIN STEP BCUZ PEO "HESITAT" MAK MOV BCUM XPIANS
 WHY PEOPL DO DANC? WHY HESITATIN STEP? - BCUZ NO UNDRST XPIANTY
 THEY THINK IN TERMS OF "RELIGIN" & IT NOT THAT
 RELIGIN LIK FRATERNAL ORG, PAY DUES, MEETINGS, CERTIN WORK, & R
 MEMBR GUD STANDING
 XPIANTY WAY OF LIF, STRIV LIV LIK JS XP, NO BLIND DUTY, LUV HIM
 SUM DO DANC BCUZ MISTAKN NOTIN HVN/HELL-NO GO HVN, FREINDS IN HELL
 (ILUS PREACHRS SAME NAM, STREET, ONE DY, CARD FR/MIAMI)
 BLIEF-IF GO HELL, B DESTROY & THAT IT - BUT HVN/HELL ETRNL, SCRIPS
 THER ETRNTY BOTH SAVD, & UNSAVD - IT ETRNL W/GOD, SP FR/GOD
 & BLIEV/UNBLIEV NEED 2KNO THIS
 (ILUS FANNY CROSBY, HYMN & SCOTTY'S CONVERSIN)

IN OUR SCRIP P RELAT JS SPK 2HIM
 VS 18=THIS IS TH/SONG - VS 18B
 A CALL 2PEOPL 2CEAS DANCE FR/GOD
 VS 19-23=THIS GOSPEL MESAG/SONG
 VS 24=ROMN GOV THINK P FANATIC/INSANE
 VS 25-26=HIS DEFENS& THAT K AGRIPA
 1 1ST WAT HE SAY
 VS 27=ASKS QUESTIN OF AGRIPA & GIVS
 CONCLUSIN AGRIPA BLIEV-(HE JEWISH)
 VS 28=BLIEV AGRIPA UNDR CONVICTIN BY
 H SP & WAVER WAT HE SHUD DO-(DANCE)
 VS 29=P GIV CLASIC ANSR WH/PROB THE
 FEEL ANYONE EVR PREACH & DESIR A
 REPSCHS 2ACCT CHRIST
 HERE IS TH/WISH, THAT THOZ WHO R DO
 TH/DANCE, WIL HEAR TH/SONG
 TH/END RESULT P'S PREACH HERE IS
 NEITHR MAN MAK ANY CHANG
 FESTUS THOT P RELIG FANATIC,
 AGRIPA MAY HAV WAVR, BUT NO CHANG
 (ILUS END SCOTTY STORY & IRONY OF IT)
 THE QUESTIN B4 US 2DAY IS, "HAV U HERD
 TH "SONG" & CEASD FR "TH/DANCE?"
 OR RU STIL DO TH/HESITATIN STEP BCUZ
 OF CONCERN 4WORDLY THINGS??
 I KNO WE MAY SAY WE HAV ACPT XP,
 BUT R WE REALY COMITD 2HIM?
 R WE LIV 4HIM? OR DO WE STIL "DANCE"
 2TH/SONG OF TH/WORLD??
 MY "ISH" THIS MORN IS THAT ALL OF US
 MA RULY KNO JS XP AS OUR PSERSNL LORD
 & SAVIOR
 IF U KNO THIS BUT HAV BAKSLIDIN,
 CEAS FR/THAT "DANCE" & CUM BAK TO
 TH/FOLD
 OPEN UR HAPT & HEAR TH/SONG

"Dance, Song And Wish"

Scripture: Acts 26:12-29

Text: Acts 26:18, 29a

In a Rescue Mission in the Bowery section of New York City the song leader was beginning the service for the derelicts and down and outers who had assembled for the service. "Turn to the song on page 154," he announced; and bleary eyed, stubble chinned men turned the pages as the organ boomed out the hymn.

"Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, snatch them in pity from sin and the grave." As they sang one of the men seated on the platform ^{the pastor of the mission} was thinking back to the many times he had heard men just like these singing this old hymn. He was thinking in particular about a derelict drunk named Scotty who had come to the Mission shortly before the outbreak of World War II. Scotty seemed to be a hopeless case. He had a mean temper and was always drunk and in brawls. Time after time he appeared at the Mission to be fed, patched up, sobered and each time he would attend the services but they had no effect on him.

This is what Paul was imparting to the two men he confronted while being held prisoner at Caesarea. Festus was the Roman ^{governor of Judea} ~~governor of Judea~~ appointed by ~~Felix~~ Nero to succeed Felix. ~~the governor of Judea~~ King Agrippa, who was King Herod Agrippa II, the son of Herod Agrippa I and the 7th and last of the Herod the Great family was visiting in the area, and Festus invited Agrippa to meet the famous prisoner being kept in the local jail. So Paul was brought before the two men to plead his defense. Paul gives his account of how he had persecuted the Christians and how on his way to Damascus he was miraculously confronted by Jesus Christ. Jesus ~~said to him~~ spoke to him and told him he was to begin preaching the very "Song" which he was striving to eradicate. In the 18th verse we read what Paul was ~~to~~ specifically to do, (read vs 18a). This was the "Dance," which Paul himself and all others who did not believe in Jesus Christ was involved in. The "Dance," could be called, "The Hesitation Step," because it is used by many, many people, to hesitate in making the move necessary in the life of every ~~person~~ human being. But why do people prefer the "Dance" instead of the "Song?" There are many

reasons. Among them are; fear of embarrassment within one's family or circle of friends; To some it is a matter of getting beyond the point of mere religion. (Illustration of Howard Robbins, "abstract and Concrete.")

This is the way some people live all of their lives. They can say they love the Church, or they love the Bible, or they love anything of religion. But as someone once said in an illustration a good friend of mine gave me recently, "Religion without the Saviour, is like a lamp without oil." But you see too many people think of Christianity as merely a religion and a religion is something which is based on a set of rules and regulations which must be followed and lived up to. ~~Christianity is partly this, but it is really a way of~~ This makes Christianity somewhat on a par with a fraternal organization. You pay your dues, attend a few meetings, serve on a committee, and you are a member in good standing. But Christianity is not a religion, it is a way of life. It is striving to live the life Jesus Christ sets before us, not ~~xxx~~ through sense of blind duty, but through the impulse of love for Him.

Some people do the "Dance" because of some mistaken notions about life and (Illustration of two ministers same neighborhood, one on trip, one dies etc) death. [^] Many people believe it doesn't make much difference what you do in

this life, you can be as wicked as you want and so what? When you die you may be sent to hell, but you will be destroyed and that is the end of it. But this is said and thought without really searching the Scriptures for the correct answer. Jesus spoke many times of eternity and He told repeatedly that eternal life consists of those who will live eternally with God and of those who will live eternally separated from God. So there is eternity to be faced by both believer and unbeliever alike and we need to know this without a doubt.

Fanny Crosby ^{is} ~~xxx~~ one of the best known Gospel song writers who ever lived. She wrote the hymn, "Rescue the Perishing," which was the hymn sung at the services in the Bowery Mission. Miss Crosby although blind was given a tour of the Bowery slums a few years after the close of the Civil War and she was inspired to write this beautiful hymn. For 10 years the man Scotty had been in and out of this particular Mission with no apparent effect on his life.

For ten long years the pastor and workers of the Mission had prayed for Scotty, not willing to give him up. So it was that on Christmas Eve just as the hymn, "Rescue The Perishing" was being sung, the battered street door opened and Scotty hopped in. He was on crutches, one leg swollen and infected, his face bloated, needing a shave, his hair matted and dirty. But he almost ran on his crutches to the front and flung himself down at the altar. No one really felt that Scotty could reform, but he did and besides that he was responsible for bringing other men like himself to the Lord. One man ~~xxx~~^{he} influenced in this way was the beat patrolman who had many times arrested him and hauled him off to jail.

Even his daughter whom he had not seen since ~~xxxx~~ she was a baby came to the Mission and told how proud she was to have a father she didn't need to be ashamed of. He went back to working at his old trade of interior decorating and when the war broke out he went to work in a war plant in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Those at the mission thought he would never come back. But each weekend he came back to the Mission and worked with the men there.

This is ~~what~~ the "Song" which Jesus spoke to Paul about. In the latter part of the 18th verse He said, (read this). This is the "Song" Paul was singing to Festus and Agrippa. But the Roman governor didn't want to hear any of this. He believed that Paul was a fanatic and told him that too much learning had ~~made~~ warped his mind. So Paul appealed to ~~Festus~~^{Agrippa} the Jewish king and ~~Festus~~^{Agrippa} answered, (read vs 28). There are Biblical scholars who have gone to great lengths to show that Agrippa is not making a statement indicating a weakening toward becoming Christian, but rather, he is asking a question about Paul's motives. This verse cannot be proven one way or the other even reading it in the original Greek. But I believe that Agrippa was under conviction by ~~fx~~ the Holy Spirit and was ~~wavering~~ wavering. I believe this because king or commoner, God is no respecter of persons and His Holy Spirit strives with both alike. But Paul's answer is the classic which is probably the feeling of anyone who has ever preached to a congregation desiring a response to Christ, (read vs 29).

Here is the "Wish" that those who are doing the "Dance," will hear the "Song." know the end result of Paul's preaching and that it made no real difference to the two men preached to. Festus thought he was a religious fanatic, while King Agrippa was unconvinced this is what he had to do.

In the story of Scotty we know that he heard the "Song" and turned from his worldly "Dance." But the irony of the story doesn't end there. Scotty drove to Bridgeport, Connecticut early each Monday morning. One Monday he left the Mission at 5:30 A.M. and on the Merritt Parkway his car stalled. He got out of the car on the drivers side and in the morning fog an oncoming driver did not see him and struck him. He died on the way to the hospital. The pastor of the Mission was called to conduct his funeral. He told how at the cemetery he happened to glance at the adjoining plot and saw a modest stone marked, Born March 1820, died February 1915, Fanny J. Crosby. The one who wrote of the rescuer, and the rescued lie buried side by side.

Question to ~~each~~ each of you today is, "Have you heard the "Song" and ceased from the "Dance"? Or are you still doing the Hesitation step because of concern for many things of this world? Are you concerned what your wife or husband might say, or other members of your family? Or are you willing to listen to the Holy Spirit today and follow His leading by doing something about that yearning in your heart to come to Jesus Christ for salvation and cleansing? My "Wish" this morning is twofold. First, I "Wish" that we had the hymn by Fanny Crosby in our hymnals so we could close with it. But my main "Wish" is that each of you would truly know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour if you do not already know that. If you have never made that decision I am going to ask you to come forward during the singing of our invitational hymn and make that decision today. If you do, you will know the cleansing of having all of your sins, past, present, and future, blotted out by Jesus through His sacrifice on the cross. Then you will know that your name is written in the Lamb's Book of life assuring you a place in heaven with God.

If you have already done this, perhaps you have backslidden and would like to

~~recommit your life today to live for risk~~
~~xxxxxx~~

recommit your life to Christ and live for Him. I would urge you not to put it off until a later time. Answer the Lord's leading today. ~~You have heard~~
prayerfully
Let us stand and join in the singing of our invitational hymn and let God speak to our hearts and then take whatever action the Holy Spirit moves us to make.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania October 7, 1979

World Wide Communion

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor

Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director

Julie Vargo - Acolyte

+ + + + +
11:00 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP - HOLY COMMUNION

Prelude "O Sacred Head" Kirnberger

*Processional Hymn No. 176 "Crown Him with many crowns"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Call to Confession and Communion

*Prayer of Confession (In Unison) "Father, as we gather to take our place at your table, we are most aware that we need to confess our sins and errors to you. Grant us your forgiveness for the anger, for the hatred, for the jealousy, for the selfishness, and for all other things which have caused us to be sorry and wish we could undo them. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen."

*Kyrie

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys, Prayer Requests

Morning Prayer - Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" Marburg
Communion Hymn No. 338 "According to Thy gracious word"

*Order of Communion (middle of page 33)

*Institution

Holy Communion

Communion Anthem: "God So Loved the World" Stainer

Scripture: Ezekiel 15

Sermon: "WHAT EVERY BRANCH NEEDS"

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Doxology

*Recessional Hymn No. 221 "My faith looks up to Thee"

*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Postlude

Morris

The lovely flowers on the Altar have been given by Mrs. Louis Zubik in memory of "Husband" (Lou) Zubik. The Elders and Deacons will serve Communion today as well as serve as Ushers.

Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Diefenderfer will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Pauline Fencil and Tina Grove.

The attendance last Sunday was 171

Hospitalized: Mr. Francis Marte

Tonight - 6:30 to 8:30 - Teacher's Training.

Tonight - 6:30-8:30 - Senior Highs (Grades 9-12)

Monday - 1:00 - We will have worship at Sunnyview Home.

Anyone who may have time meet in lounge and assist in worship.

Monday - 7:00 - Holy Communion (At A'lter).

Tuesday - (Oct. 9) - SOUP & SALAD DAY. Get your tickets after Church today at the Brugh Ave. Door or at the door on Tuesday. Betty Tressler will be accepting bazaar items Monday evening or Tues. morning. We'll be preparing vegetables for 2 soup days - so lots of help is needed in the kitchen starting at 9:00 A.M. tomorrow morning. Bring your favorite knife and join in the fellowship. More carrots and onions are still needed. Contact Lois Wogan.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE HELPING WITH THE LEIGHTON FORD CRUSADE - meet in the multi purpose room at 1:30 on Sunday so you can get your material. We still need help if you would like to help.

Wed. - Youth Choir 6-7

Wed. - Chancel Choir 7

Wed. - 7-8 - Jr. High Youth (Grades 6,7,8)

Altar Flowers are available for Oct. 21 and 28th.

Contact Bea in the office if you are interested.

LEIGHTON FORD CRUSADE COMING - next Sunday Oct. 14

thru Sunday Oct. 21st. Intermediate High School.

No admission charge. Services are at 7:30 P. M.

Art Carney & Rod Rensel will be visiting the Hospital this week.

Meeting of Lake Erie Association Chapter of St. Paul

Homes Auxiliary- Oct. 24, 1979 at St. Paul Homes

Administration Bldg. Time 9:30 - 3:00 P.M. Speaker:

Dr. Paul Shumaker. Registration & Coffee Hour

9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Bring sack lunch and cup 'see article

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH OF SAGAMORE

August 9, 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----Reach Out to Jesus-----# 430

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----There Shall be Showers of Blessing-----#580

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 15

SERMON: "What Every Branch Needs"

INVITATIONAL HYMN---I Could Never Outlove the Lord--#452

BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US...

At the close of the service, the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you, if you so desire.

**Please stand

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE WEEK...

- **August 15-16, 1998:** The Lordsmen will be here for services at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday. Come and enjoy the music and message of salvation. *FELLOWSHIP DINNER - BRING MAIN COURSE & DESSERT*
- **August 22 & 29: 9:30am-12pm** The Red Cross will be offering an emergency shelter class to anyone wishing to volunteer their time. Participants must be at least 18 yrs. of age. Call 397-4344 for more info. and to register. The classes will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Plumville.
- **September 26, 1998:** Don't forget to keep your calendar open for a day full of fun and fellowship at the church picnic. More details will follow.

Happy Birthday...

August 6-----Tommy McDaniel
August 10-----Leisa Bailey

Happy Anniversary...

August 10-----John & Jennifer Lingenfelter

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

LARRY/TIMLA
BERNARD
BROTHER
"Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can."

"hat Every Branch Needs"

Scrip: Ezek 15; Text: Ezek 15:2; Jn 15:4

(Illustration large needle and thread)

S1 Bil made 4peop bad eyes,lv lrg holes,no can hav everthing

Hav U guessed wat this show? Perhap by tim dun wil

E 1 spok 2peop Is. cpativty,& mesag=B punish 4sin

1th Chap parbl vine tree & analogy wood no gud vs 2=G ask wat is it?

" 3=gud 4 any work? mad in2 peg,nail hang sumthin?

" 4=only gud burn fire & then no fit firwood

" 6-8=Peop Is compar 2useless wood & this fate Is

Symboliz not only Is but all sinful peop

Jn 15=Js spok anothr way=He vine & we 2B branch

vs 4=Branch 2B part main stem all times

1st say=4a. then vs 6=Pruning take plac & cud B just few twigs or whol branch if need B 2 preservvine

Many think Blong 2Lord & so plod along & do litl/notk

Nevr heed cal compl discipship & L mus chasten

This mayb period unsur lif,dry spel spiritually

But mus kno Satan our leadr & not G

(Illus yng man froz deth)

Many,many peop,evn strong Blievrs go thru time like this Bcu2 things worl blot out all else

Tak prune of L bring us bak 2branch shud B

Vs # 5b=Without Him can do nuthin=apart from Him no gud,He sore our lif

How oft wil acknowledg need suport Byond selvs??

Want 2B self-suficint & liv lif frustration

May discovr element simpl & availbl in lif

(Illus Sir Waltr Scott & dog broken leg,4giv)

This Js 2ea us if let Him

1fr self in luv & pik up ea tim fal if wil 2cum & seek 4givness which ther tim aftr time

Nos say=1 mor time & U cast out & away

Insted=CUM UN2ME ALL LABR & HVY LADN & I GIV REST

Unconditionl invit 2cum & partak luv freely shed

we abid in Him by feed His Word=nu strength ea day

" " " " thru prayr & convers

" " " " by seek serv Him in worl gro mor hop-lesly imbed sin/self-destruct daily

" " " " by shar & sho that luv 2thoz who no kno lik we do

Wat Duz Ever Branch Need?=lif & vitality Js Ep flo thr it 2B vital & aliv & bear fruit fit 4kingdom

We hav sot abid in Vine by cum 4clens & 4givness

et us now go 4th & sho by wat do,say,how liv in futur livs.

VSS 5-6=AS GAV BOTH KINGDMS OVR 2INVADRS,SO JERU AS WEL
VSS 7-8=TH WORD "FIRE" MEANS GO FR/ONE CALAMTY 2ANOTHR
THINGS WIL GO FR BAD TO WORS
PEO OF ISR KNU WAT G DESIR FR/THEM,BUT NO DO=APOSTACY
A VINE ONLY GUD WEN PRODUC & ISR NO DO THIS

ALIK THIS PARBL NOT ONLY DESCRIB SINFUL PROPL OF ISRAEL,
BUT SYMBOLIZ ALL SINFUL HUMANTY
JS SPOK 2THIS VERY ISSUE AS WELL

JOHN RECORD THIS IN HIS GOSPEL 15th CHAPTER
(TURN TO JOHN 15)

SCRIP: EZEK 15; SERMON: "HAT EVERY BRANCH NEEDS"

TH/PROPH EZEK SPOK 2TH/PEOPL OF ISR B HELD IN CAPTIVTY
HIS MESAG=THEY WER B PUNISHD 4THER SINS AGIN GOD
THIS MESAG WAS A PARABL OF TH/VINE TREE & PROB SPOK 594 BC
VS 1=EZEK IN ESSENC IS SAY - "THUS, SAITH THE LORD"
VS 2=REFERENC 2VINE WAS TH/SYMBOL OF ISRAEL
VS 3=ISR BCUM USELES JUS LIK WOOD OF VINE IS
IT DINT BEAR FRUIT AS EXPECTD
IN EVRY AGE TH/PEOPL OF GOD R ONLY OF VALU W/FRUITFULNES
VS 4=THIS COD PERHAPS PERTAIN 2 BOTH KINGDMS OF ISRAEL
EZEK IS SPK FF A BRANCH W/BOTH ENDS BURND
UPPR PART=N KINGDM: LOWR PART=S KINGDM & MDDL=JERU
KINGDM OVRUN BY ASYRIA; S KINGDM BY BABYLON & MDDL=JERU
5-6=AS GAV BOTH KINGDMS OVR 2INVADRS,SO JERU AS WEL

JOHN 15

2/

VS 1=HE (JS) IS TH/VINE, GOD IS ONE TENDS TH/VINES

VS 2=JUS LIK ISRAEL OF OLD,G PRUNES NON-BEARING VINES

JS IS SAY HE MAIN STEM, ALL OTHRS BRANCHES OF THAT MAIN STEM

VS 4=WE R 2REMAIN CLOS 2TH/STEM BCUZ TH/GRANCHES GO OUT FR/IT

VS 5=TELS US WE R 2ABIDE IN HIM

ABID IN GRK=2REMAIN,STAY,DWEL IN, REMAIN CLOSE TO

VSS 5-6=IF BRANCH NO BRING 4TH FRUIT, IT NEEDS CUT OFF

WAT EVRY BRANCH NEEDS IS 2B PRUNED

BUT JS NO SPK JUS CUT OFF FEW DED TWIGS,HE SPK REMOV BRANCH

SO IT NO TAK STRNTH FR/OTHR HELTHY BRANCHES

THIS NEED 2HAPN IN LIVS OF BLIEVRS

2MANY BLIEVRS THINK THAT JUS BCUZ BLONG 2TH/LORD, A LIF OF

MEDIOCRATY IS ACCPTABL 2HIM

& SO MANY PLOD ALONG NEVR HEED CAL 2COMPLET/DEDICATD DISCIPLSHI

G PRUNES BY "CHASTENING"

WEN LIVS NO SEEM GO RT,NED QUESTIN "AM I B CHASTN BY G?"

IF TRY LIV WORLDLY LIVS WE WIL 4GET THINGS OF GOD,FOLO SATAN

(ILUS GORDON LIDDY & HIS BLIEF IN HIMSELF)

MANY,MANY PROPL R LIK THIS & MANY OF THEM R BLIEVRS

GOD WANTS US 2GET BAK 2B TH/BRANCHES WE SHUD & THAT REQUIR PRU

IF G IS PRUN US,WE SHUD B THANKFUL & ACCPT THAT OUR LIVS

ONE LRG THING IN ALL THIS & THAT IS IMPORTANC WAT JS SAY VS 4

VS 4=WE/CUT HIM CAN DO NUTHIN

THIS TEL US APART FR/VINE,TH/MAIN SORCE OUR LIVS WE CAN DO NUTH

BUT HOW OFT WE WIL ACKNOWLEDG WE NEED SUPORT ANYTH/ANYONE BYON

OURSELVS????

WE WANTB SELF-SUFFICIENT & GO IT ALONE

THIS ENDS IN FRUSTRATIN UNTIL WE LERN A VALUBL LESSN

THAT LESSN IS AN ELEMENT SO SIMPL & ALWAYS AVAILB 2US

(J 3 SIR WALTER SCOTT, DOG BROKN LEG, & FORGIVNESS)

THUS HOW JS IS IF WE LET HIM

HE OFFRS SELF IN LUV & PIKS US UP EA TIME FAL IF WE WIL 2CUM

2HIM & SEEK THAT 4GIVNES & LUV

HE NO SAY "ONE MOR TIME & UR DUN,"

INSTED HE SAY, "CUM UN2ME ALL YE THAT LABR & R HVY LADN & I WIL

GIV US REST"

THATS UNCONDITINAL INVITATIN 2CUM & PARTAK THAT LUV SO FREELY

SHED 4US

WE ABID IN HIM BY FEED CN HIS WORD & FIND STRENTH 4EA DAY

WE ABID IN HIM THRU DAILY CONVERSATIN W/HIM IN PRAYR

WE ABID IN HIM BY SEEK 2SERV HIM IN A WORL WH/GRU MOR DEEPLY

EMBEDDED IN SIN & SELF-DESTRUCTIN DAILY

WE ABID IN HIM BY SHAR/SHOW THAT LUV 2THOZ WHO DONT KNO HIM

WAT DUZ EVRY BRANCH NEED? TH/LIF VITALTY OF JS XP FLO THRU IT

2B VITAL/ALIV & BEAR FRUIT FIT 4TH/KINGDOM

WE HAV SOT 2ABID IN THAT VINE BY CUM 2HIM 4CLENS & 4GIVNES

LET US NOW GO 4TH & SHO IT BY WAT WE DO & SAY,& BY HOW WE

LIV IN OUR FUTUR LIVS

"What Every Branch Needs"

Scripture: Ezekiel 15

Text: Ezekiel 15:2; John 15:4

(Illustration of large needle and thread) This is a specially made needle for people with bad eyes. Of course it leaves large holes in the clothes, but you ~~can't think of what this proves. Perhaps by the time we are finished you can't have everything.~~
~~will have guessed it.~~

Have you guessed just what this illustration shows? Perhaps by the time we are done you will.

Ezekiel spoke to the people of Israel in captivity. His message was that they were in captivity because they were being punished for their sins against God. In the 15th chapter is found a parable of the vine tree. We must understand that this so called vine tree is probably a vine which perhaps entwined itself around another tree or bush. It could signify the grape vine as well, but not bearing the fruit as it should. But his analogy is that the wood of the vine is not fit for anything.

God asks what is it?, vs 2. Is it able to do any work, vs 3? Can it be made into a peg or nail on which to hang something, vs 3b?

It is only good to be burned in the fire and even then it is not fit firewood, vss 4-5

Here the people of Israel are compared to the useless wood of the vine. And just as that wood can only serve a purpose by being burned and destroyed, so is this to be the fate of Israel, vss 6-8.

But if we look at this parable it not only describes the sinful people of Israel, but it symbolizes all sinful humanity. Jesus spoke to this issue in quite another way as it is found recorded in the 15th chapter of the Gospel of John. He tells His followers that He is the vine. He means by this that He is the main stem and all other people are to be the branches of that vine.

A particular in the 4th verse is where He shares all of this in detail, but ~~we find this spelled out~~ the important thing in all of this is that the branches are always attached to the main stem or root. (Read verse 4). But when we ~~look~~

look at what Jesus is saying, we find several things which need to be pointed out.

First, "He says, abide in me," vs 4a. Then He goes on to say, (vs 6). What this means is that "What Every Branch Needs," is to be pruned. The pruning will take place in just lopping off a few dead twigs of that branch, or it may mean the radical removal of that branch completely from the main stem so the rest of the branches which are seeking to grow and gain strength may do so. This is necessary so that not all of the plant may die because of the dying of one or two other branches. This needs to happen in the lives of many believers. We like to think that because we belong to the Lord that He is just going to tolerate our mediocrity in our service to Him. So we just plod along only doing that which is absolutely necessary to get by and never heeding the call to complete and dedicated discipleship. This pruning of the Lord may take ^{form} the ~~place~~ of what the Bible calls, "Chastening." This means a form ~~of adversity~~ of adversity or problems which should make us aware that we are straying away from God. Chastening may come as a period in which we become unsure of what life holds for us and we wrestle with it. It may come as a series of events which cause us concern about our relationship to the Lord and so on. But the thing we need to note is that when we are living for ourselves in strictly worldly ways, we are being led by our adversary Satan, and not God. (Illustration of young man found frozen to death).

Many, many people, and some of them very strong believers go through these periods of trial and testing because they ~~become~~ come to a point in their lives where the things of this world blot out all else. So it takes the pruning of the Lord to get us back to being the branches we should be.

But then there is one very large thing which we dare never forget and that is what Jesus pointed out very vividly in this 4th verse of John 15. (Read this). Without Him we can do nothing. This doesn't say that we can live and labor and this will be sufficient for God. It says that apart from the vine, the main source of our life, we can do nothing.

But how often are we willing to acknowledge that we need the support of anyone or anyone beyond ourselves? We want to be self-sufficient and so we lash out on our own and get ourselves hopelessly in a state of frustration, when we soon discover that there is an element so simple and available to us in life.

(Illustration of Sir Walter Scott and dog with broken leg)

This is how Jesus is to each of us if we let Him. He offers us Himself in love and picks us up each time we fall if we are willing to come to Him and seek that forgiveness and love which is there time after time. He doesn't say, "One more time and I'll have nothing more to do with you." Instead, He says, "Come to me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." It is an unconditional invitation to come and partake of that love so freely shed for each of us.

We abide in Him by feeding on His Word and find new strength for each day in this manner. We abide in Him through daily conversation in prayer. We abide in Him by seeking to serve Him in a world that grows more hopelessly embedded in sin and self-destruction daily. We abide in Him by sharing and showing that love to those who do not know Him as we do.

"What does Every Branch Need?" It needs the life and vitality of Jesus Christ flowing through it and ~~in~~ in it to be vital and alive and bearing fruit fit for the kingdom. We have sought to abide in that Vine by coming to Him for cleansing and forgiveness. Let us now go forth and show it by what we do and say, and ~~how~~ by how we live in our future lives.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost October 14, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Julie Vargo - Acolyte

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude: "Morceau Brillante" H. P. Cross

*Hymn No. 14 "Praise ye the Father"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "God of fathers, we confess our fear of life. We need courage. Everyday crises upset us. Hidden fears threaten to undermine us. We find ourselves praying that certain tests should not come our way - that important questions may by-pass us. We settle for superficial routines, pretending that the deeper issues do not involve us. Yet, we know that to avoid reality means living in a fool's paradise, and we cannot be content. That is why we pray for the courage to face the world as it confronts us, that by your grace we may at last become the people you would have us be, in the image of Jesus our Lord. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Hymn No. 471 "More love to Thee"

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory

"Pastorale"

Ehrich

Anthem: "Because He Lives" Gaither

Sung by Cyndie Sybert and the Chancel Choir

Scripture: Genesis 47: 1-10

Sermon: "LOOK AT THE RECORD"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer *IRV CHANGERS*

*Hymn No. 278 "O Love that wilt not let me go"

Benediction

Choral Response "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Lutkin

Postlude "Con Moto"

Cross

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed

by Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bolam in Honor of their

Grandson - Scott Everett Bolam

Serving as Ushers today are *Wally Feder, John Snow, Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Tait will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Patty Wogan and Debra Johnston.

The Attendance last Sunday was 227

Tonight 7:30 - The Leighton Ford Crusade begins

Monday - 10-11:30 A.M. - Women's Tea with Jean Leighton. at the Heritage Room at Holiday Inn. Tickets are .50 each, available at the Crusade office, 249 S. Main St. Help spread the word! Come and bring a friend or two.

Monday - 7:30 - Youth Night and Donnie Shell of the Pittsburgh Steelers will be there. *CALL ON PAUL*

See Schedules on the bulletin boards.

Monday - 7:30 - Fidelity Bible Class meeting

Wed. - There will be no Golden Circle meeting this month - they would like to encourage members to attend the Leighton Ford Crusade

Thursday - 10:30 - Mary Martha Circle meeting at Mary Lou Davis Home

Paul Campbell and Don Kingsley will be visiting the Hospital ~~this~~ week.

Wednesday - 7:00 - Chancel Choir practice

Christians are like tea. Their real strength comes out when they get into hot water.

Hospitalized - Mrs. Avida Miller.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost October 21, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Sharon Pfabe and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

* * * * *
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Faith of our Fathers" Mueller
*Hymn No. 184 "All hail the power of Jesus' name"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Lord, Our Father, we come to you as a people who are a part of the community of believers. We seek your guidance for we know that the Church cannot exist without it. Forgive each member of your Church for their individual and corporate sins. Keep us true to the commitment of upbuilding the Church throughout the world. Keep us from the divisions that separate us from others. And always keep us steadfast in your love, in Jesus name. Amen."
*Kyrle (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 304 "The King of Love my Shepherd is"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Holy Ghost with Light Divine" Mueller
Anthem: "Treasures in Heaven" Clickoy
Sung by the Chancel Choir
Scripture: Luke 10:25-37
Sermon: "Educational Note:
Tomorrow Is Monday"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 393 "O brother man"

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

Morris

* * * * *
*Congregation Standing * * * * *
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. William Johnston in memory of Mrs. Johnston's "Father" - Harry Peters.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Rob Vinroe, Randy Dellen, Bob Dellen and Mark Fry.

Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Mary Ellen Sanko, and Sherry McClimans.

Tonight - 7:30 - Last chance to hear Leighton Ford Crusade at Intermediate High School.

Monday - 7:00 - 8:30 - Masquerade Party for the Church School. You are asked to come in costume. See Ginger Harbison or Marlene Reimer for details.

Tuesday - 7:30 - Basketball or Volleyball. Anybody out of high School and up. See Bill Ohl.

Wed. - 9:30-3:00 - Lake Erie Chapter of St. Paul Homes Auxiliary. Dr. Shumaker will be Speaker. Registration and coffee hour from 9:30-10:30. Bring sack lunch and cup for coffee.

Thurs. - 7:30 - Youth Rally here at St. Paul's, in the Gymn. This will be a Butler Area Youth Ministry Kick-off rally. Senior High the first week (9-12) Come and see some of the funniest skits and enjoy the singing and talks.

Mike Nazaruk and Mid Diefenderfer will be visiting the Hospital this week.

Hospitalized: Mr. Joseph Galbraith - BCMH

Mr. Harold Sandbach - Shadyside Hosp. - Pitts. - *out*

ROY ANDREW PRINCE - - -

Remember, there is time coming for those who want to help make apple butter again. November 1st and 2nd we will make apple butter again. We again need help and donations to sweeten the apple butter and jars for those who are wanting to get rid of them.

Donations of time will be greatly appreciated also.
- - - Ginny Mangel - - -

"Educational Note: Tomorrow Is Monday"
Scripture: Luke 10:25-37; Text: Lk 10:37b

Pas' days bin 1's education

(Illus 3 joints, hangovr; Shirley Neill/Freud slip)
so lern 2day I tired; 2nite last nite Crusade &

2moro thing past, so tak Ed Note: 2moro Is Monday
Wat mean? Blu Mon? Blahs? 4thoz cal slf Xpian day of
Bginings

Scrip old famil Bibl story

Js no tel as illus, insted tool get peop C purp lif
Jeru 2 Jericho rd dangerous 2=1930, no saf dark/lite
Peop cud pictur man & events; priests mus use home 2
Jericho; 2 & from work

Priest=no want Bcum unclean; get home or work no bothr
C many Ch membs 2day & wen needs in cong hear excuse
I mus do this; hav confl etc & many only fil memb requ
(Illus Vance Havner & play on stage)

Can U say UR involv lk UR membship this lite?

2=Js sed Levite cum along; asst 2 priest; no officiate
Cud sed none my busness

Supos both way hom from Temp=tasks dun, no bothr
I C in pr & Lev Ch membs wil rest acompl day gon by
I Hear: I taut, serv my term; I used 2 sing, let othr do
Many thoz work Crusade wil quit 2nit & retir
Go bak 2Ch & watevr spark wil die

Peop in Ch=At last no hear get involv agin
Lik many Ch peop=Sunday ovr & 2moro Monday, put off
Sunday clothes & put away 4 nothr week

3=Js tol nothr charactr & this Samartan Why?
why not Phar, Scrib, Sad? & wat did Samar do?

vs 3=Had compassion on him

vs 34=took care needs, inn etc

vs 35=Morrow, mean nex day mak arang 2B tak care of
U & I stan 2day, 2moro & ever day B4 G as 1 of 3

haracters

Pr=merely performr, only cert time & circumstanc

Lev=workr, but only official line duty

(Examp Ch Noll & Steeler; bad enuf los, but sit seats)

We no cal 4 1day ministry as sum wud hav Bliev

Pas wk fil events, conversations 2numerous speak

Seen, herd, felt, hurts, needs peop need of luv which
only Ch can provid in troubl worl & society

Js gav command=(Illus man thumb Bibl 4 verses 4 life)

Comand=lik Js, Xp; Same yester, 2day & 4ever

Make Ed Note: 2moro Is Monday; Monday need 2B day we
ta' hol task B4 us & reachout luv 2sinsik & dy world

Don't pas by othr sid & refus do wat Js want us 2do

Shar luv @ frely giv 2U thru Js, Xp on Calvary

Are U wil 2 accept that challeng?

"Educational Note:
Tomorrow Is Monday"

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

Text: Luke 10:37b

These past eight days I have had an education in many things. I would like to share some of these things with you today.

(Does anyone know what this is? Point to wrist, elbow, shoulder. ~~That's it~~ ~~xxxix~~ Then let arm hang over wrist. That is 3 joints and a hangover).

(I had a pastor's report to give to one of the ministers on Thursday and the name of the person on it, the last name was Neal. I looked at that and the name was on the tip of my tongue. So when I handed it to the minister I spoke to him briefly and since he had never formally met my wife, I introduced her, but not in the proper way. I said, "I would like you to meet my wife Shirley Neill." Neill was her maiden name and the name on the slip of paper reminded me of this and I made that slip. Then I said, "That must have been a Freudian slip," referring to what Sigmund Freud said about slips of the tongue actually meaning something other than a mistake. The pastor replied, "Do you know what a Freudian slip is? It's the slip a woman wears when she goes to visit her psychiatrist.")

So these are some of the educational things I learned this week. But I also learned that today I am tired from this week's activities. I also learned well that tonight is the last service of the Leighton Ford Crusade in Butler, and tomorrow it will be a thing of the past. So along with me, please take an "Educational Note: Tomorrow Is Monday."

What does this mean? Is it "Blue Monday" all over again? Is it a day for the "Blahs" to set in in a humdrum life or existence? It could be, and it may well be for many people. But for those who want to call themselves Christians and members of Christ's Church it is a day of beginnings.

We shared a very familiar Bible story this morning as our Scripture. I am sure that most Sunday School children know it very well. But as familiar as the story is, many of us forget or want to forget its real meaning and purpose. Jesus didn't use it as merely an illustration to have something to say. Rather, he used it as a tool to get people to see what their purpose in life really was.

As we review the story we see that a man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. Jesus knew that His hearers would be familiar with this stretch of road. It was notorious for people being robbed and murdered as late as 1930. It was absolutely unsafe for people to travel that road after dark, much less by themselves in the daylight. ~~As Jesus told this story the people com~~

When Jesus told this story his hearers could picture the man traveling down that road and being mugged and left for dead. But there were other travelers who had to use that stretch of road whether they wanted to or not. The first to come along was a priest. This wasn't unusual since most of the priests lived outside of Jerusalem in and around Jericho. Once again, the people could see that this was an ordinary occurrence. Now the priest was either on his way to a tour of duty in the Temple, or he was on his way home after completing his tour of duty. Whatever the circumstances, he wasn't about to make himself unclean by touching someone who was probably dead. Then there was always the possibility that the man needed help and to do so meant that he would have to get involved in the fellow's life and that would detain him from getting to the Temple on time, or getting home to his wife and family.

In this we can see a parallel between many church members of today. When there is a need for assistance in the congregation in many different areas, we begin to hear the excuses for not serving because "I must do this," or "I have a conflict that night," and so on. Unfortunately there are too many members who only want to come and fulfill a membership requirement without getting involved. To them Church membership is merely attending and sometimes that is sporadic or very irregular. These members do not like to be reminded that service means more than sitting.

(Illustration Vance Havner & minister on stage performing, God in wings directing, congregation in pews applauding or rating performance. Should be, People on stage performing, minister in wings directing, Go in congregation applauding)

Can you say that you are involved in the proper role looking at your membership in this light?

Then Jesus said there was a Levite who came along and he too passed on by.

A Levite was an assistant to the priest. He performed many of the duties required in the Synagogue or Temple, but he could not officiate like the priest did. He was required to be clean ceremonially for all of his duties and functions and this is also one of the reasons he would pass by the wounded man lying in the road. But there is also the reason that this was not his business .

Let's just suppose that both the priest and the Levite were on their way home from their respective duties in the Temple. Their tasks were done and now they were homeward bound to see their wives and families.

priest and the Levite
I see in the ~~Levite~~ all of the church members who are willing to rest on the accomplishments of days gone by. I hear people tell me, "I used to teach Sunday School, but I served my term." Or, "I used to sing in the choir, but I think the younger ones should do it." And the excuses go on and on. Many of those who have worked in the Crusade which will end tonight will end with it. They will go back to their churches and whatever spark of Christian service or zeal will fade out and die. ~~But the work is not over, it is just beginning.~~ Many others within the local churches are beginning to breathe a sigh of relief and saying, "At long last this thing is going to be over and done with and we won't be hearing about getting involved." They are looking ~~at~~ ^{AT THINGS} much like many church members, "Tomorrow Is Monday," and if we have attended church we can put off our Sunday clothes and store them until next week.

But Jesus told of one more character involved in this episode. This was the Samaritan. Why do you suppose He made this fellow a Samaritan? He could have said, a Scribe, or a Pharisee. He could have identified him as a Sadducee. But instead He called him a Samaritan. Why? He did so because He was speaking to a mostly Jewish audience and the Jews hated the Samaritans. To make the episode have more impact He used a hated group of people to represent doing the right thing. And what did this Samaritan do? Verse 33, "He had compassion on the man." Out of the goodness of his heart he took care of the man's immediate needs, took him to an inn, and cared for him, verse 34. Look what it says in verse 35, "And on the morrow," meaning the next day he made arrangements for the man to be taken care of further until his return.

^{AND TOMORROW HE WOULD RETURN TO CONTINUE HIS WORK}
You and I stand today, tomorrow and every day before God as one of these three characters. We stand as the priest merely as a performer but only at certain times and under certain circumstances. We stand as the Levite, a worker but again, only as long as it is in the official line of duty. Chuck Noll must have

thought ~~as~~ his players as being Levites last week. He said it wasn't so bad at they lost the game, but it was the fact that they sat on ~~their~~ the seat of their pants after they failed to perform their jobs properly. We are not called for a one day a week ministry as some would have us believe.

This past week has been filled with events and episodes and conversations which are much too numerous to speak of. I have spoken to many people from all walks of life and I have seen and felt the hurts and needs of people in need of the love which only the church can provide in a much troubled world and society.

Jesus gave ~~us~~ the command to the lawyer and this command applies to us as well. (Illustration of man thumbing for verses, "Go and do thou likewise")

That comman will always remain, It is just as Jesus Christ Himself, "The same yesterday, today, and forever."

Make an "Educational Note: Tomorrow Is Monday." But that Monday needs to be a day in which we really take hold of the task before us and reach out in love to sin-sick and dying world. Don't pass by on the other side and refuse to do as Jesus would have you to do. Don't pass by because you think you have served all you need to serve.

Do share that love which God so freely gave to you through Jesus Christ on Calvary. Are you willing to accept that challenge?

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Reformation Sunday October 28, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Organist
Mr. Lloyd Link and Mrs. Ginger Harbison, Choir Directors
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Sharon Pfabe and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Prayer" Wagner
*Hymn No. 323 "Glorious things of thee are spoken"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Almighty God, forgive us for our faulty following of the Master: our slow faith in His power to save; our timid, hesitant answers to His call for service; our insensibility to the meaning of His cross; for all that mars our discipleship, and make it difficult for others to believe in Him. We ask it all in His name. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 254 "Jesus, I live to Thee"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Berceuse" Iljinsky
Anthem: Love Is Surrender Carmichael
Sung by the Youth Choir
Scripture: Acts 5:1-11
Sermon "LIVE AND DIE"
Benediction and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 281 "A mighty fortress is our God"
Benediction
Three Fold Amen
Postlude Feder
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by Debra Johnston in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Deacon and Mrs. Bruce McBride will greet the Congregation and Friends at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Betty Carney and Mary Dellen.
Hospitalized: Mrs. Eleanor Sandbach - BCMH and Mr. Roy Andrews - Presbyterian Hospital - Pittsburgh.
Our Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Shakely who are celebrating their 39th Wedding Anniversary today. William Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the Hospital this week.
On November 4 we will have a Election of Officers and also the Adoption and Presentation of the Budget. Those running for Elder are: Bob Tait and Bob Dellen. For Deacon: Dutch Bolam, Dave McMillen, Rob Vinroe, Steve Smith, Karen Kennedy. *No Nov. from Feder*
Tuesday - 7:30 - Basketball and Volleyball. Anybody out of high School and up. See Bill Ohl.
Christian Enlistment Sunday is coming up Nov. 11th. Family Thankoffering Sunday will be Nov. 18.
This Thursday and Friday (Nov. 1 and 2nd will be apple butter time again. We need help and donations to sweeten the apple butter and jars for those who are wanting to get rid of them. Donations of time will be greatly appreciated also. --Ginny Mangel --
I would like to thank Rev. Link and Congregation for their Prayers, cards and visits during the illness and death of my brother Lewis. -- Gottlob Kradel
Our thanks to Bill Pflugh who took care of getting Ushers for the VA Hospital Services this month. Also we would like to thank anyone who helped with wheeling the Patients to the Services.
When you're all wrinkled up with care and worry, it's time to get your faith lifted.
The attendance last Sunday was 175.

"Lie And Die"

Scrip: Acts 5:1-11; Text: Acts 5:11

(Story man & bldg hous undevelop area; ope 2neighbor
construc & Bldg supply busnes; peop steal; no prosecut;
decid conscienc mus liv with; & knowledg they wrong
him; 2community seem all tranquil, rite; lk lik benev
Can stil continu 2B generous, luv neighbors)

B4 complet story 2 things:

1. Pondr story & ask quest=Wud U hav partak man hospi
& repaid by steal from him?

Wud U hav respec open hom 2U & repay luv with luv

2. Lk at Scrip 4 object lesson

(Illus SS teach & wat sharpr 2edge sword? Ax Apostls)
boy rite but confus; G duz interven lif as examp Scr
Hav all thing common; own 2gethr; luv 1nothr; no own/sha
An & Sap conspir 2sell, keep part 4selvs

He bring sum 4comon treasury & H Sp reveal 2 Pet
Examp: sell hous worth 20,000 for 10,000 & this wrong
An confront by Pet & G strik ded Bcuz deceit

Wife cum in, no kno hus demise; she lie & Die
Pet ask: How cum U2 agree 2tempt G's H Sp with Lie?

The fit climax found 11th vs (READ)

lessn had sobr effect on thoz who herd & lern G no
tak kindly thoz who cheat Him

Let's return 2wealthy man of story: Hav U anser quest
whethr U steal from him as neighbors did?

Did U say, "Not me, I wud nevr do that?"

I hope many of U didn't

Who was man in illus? ALMIGHTY GOD

He own Butler & all els; construct & bldg supply is
bld livs peop who kno as G & Saviour

His residenc St Paul, & neighbors U & I, & thoz B4
But U C, many, many peop cum & gon this cong who hav
taken from G & Hav not givn i n return

Ther sum us here 2day hav bin doing 4yrs & expect G'
blessing on our steal from Him that which riteful His
Yes, my frands that wat amt 2 wen refus Giv 2 G wat

U hav herd bout tithe & preach about it shud
yet 2 many no tak serious & striv 2do so

Then U wondr why lif no bles lik othr peop

Wil nevr kno til etern how many membs hav liv shorten
livs Bcuz unwill 2 rendr 2G wat His

Lik An & Sap can no Lie & get away; mus Die Sp or phy
Ther stil thing G requir & we not only 2receiv but

2giv cert portion bak 2Him & return He bles w/mor

All noian shud striv 2tithe; explain tithe is 10% money
1no ag n ask 2pledg; hav U mad mind up same las yr &

no ask G wat 2giv? Are U wil 2prayful ask wat G want
inflation hit all & we kno it; but thes excus 4no

want 2do what shud do; I no ask U 2do wat I wont do

We try tithe sum yrs ago & found ~~xxxxxxx~~ bless G
provid sinc

(Illus newsboy, business man, 100,00 & ask preacher)

(Illus dream & G multiply by 10 & U liv on th

Think about this; pray about it & let G speak 2U

B4 U jus use ur human insticnts 2mak decision

May G mak ea us awar we cannot cheat G & expe

His blessing in return

If we "Lie" we "Die" spiritually or physically

"LIE AND DIE"

Scripture: Acts 5:1-11

Text: Acts 5:11

Many years ago a very wealthy man wrestled with an idea he had concerning the future of himself and his family. He was in the construction and building supply business. His holdings were vast and he had ~~holdings~~ ^{structures and other residences} throughout Butler and surrounding areas. He was deciding on building in a certain area which was a new and relatively undeveloped section of the city. His idea was to build for himself and his family a residence which would be unique in many respects. He knew that anyone could build just an ordinary home and live there as any ordinary citizen would. But he had determined that his home would be something out of the ordinary. This home would more or less be a home for all who lived around him.

He had planned this in infinite detail with blueprints and designs to suit the particular needs of both himself and the section in which he was building. So it was that ground was broken and the residence began to take shape. The entire neighborhood was enthusiastic that a new section of their area was being developed, but most especially since they understood it to be something different and unique among residences. It was an imposing structure, but then it had to be to meet not only the needs of this man's family, but to ~~meet the needs~~ ^{XXXX} be open the neighbors as well.

Finally the day of completion arrived. Every nail and bolt and screw had been put securely in place. The windows were cleaned, the floors scrubbed and polished to a shine. Everything was spic and span for the grand opening. Everyone who came to that opening were convinced that this was the most unique structure in all of Butler. But then as time went on it was discovered ~~xx~~ just what it was that set this residence apart from any other home. The neighbors were welcome there at any time of the day. They were made to feel that it was just as much their home as that of the wealthy owner.

But something began to take place which caused the owner a heartache he found

difficult to endure. ~~He~~ Since he was in the construction and building supply business ~~he naturally had~~ it was essential that he store his materials. Since this residence was in a large undeveloped area it was only natural that he should use his property there to store these materials. The neighbors didn't mind because it didn't detract from the property. And besides, they had free access to his home and this compensated for any feelings they may have had about the materials ~~xxxx~~ stored on the premises.

But he began to ~~he~~ notice that some of his materials were disappearing. Little by little it was a board here and there; ~~xxxx~~ 2 X 4's were taken; hardware and finish materials were no longer where they had been placed. He was faced with a real dilemma. What should he do? Should he close his home to everyone simply because a few people were taking advantage of his hospitality? What effect would this have on the others who were honest and who enjoyed coming to share his food and fellowship which he so freely provided? If he took legal action what would happen to the name he had acquired? After all, weren't all wealthy men thought of as having attained that wealth through greed and the running roughshod over most other people? Even though he had done his level best to overcome that reputation in his own life, could he continue to have his goods and supplies just disappear without taking some sort of action?

As he wrestled with this dilemma he was grieved over the absolute lack of tact and decency shown by those neighbors whom he trusted with the use of his residence. His decision was to let them live with ~~their~~ the knowledge that they had wronged him. After all he felt it was their conscience they had to live with. To the community it appeared that everything was tranquil and right at his residence. He was able to maintain his good name and people thought of him as a benevolent and generous man who continued to love his neighbors and the community around him.

Now before we complete this story I would like for us to do two things. First, I would like for each of us to ponder this story and to answer several questions. Would you and I have partaken of the man's hospitality and repaid him in this fashion by stealing from him? Or would you have respected his opening his home

you and repaid that kindness by returning his love with love?

The second thing I would like for us to do is to go back to our Scripture for this morning and look at what God gives to us as an object lesson.

(Illustration SS teacher and "what is sharper than two edged sword?", little boy answers, "The Ax of the Apostles")

The boy was on the right track though confused. God does intervene in human life as evidenced by this illustration in the 5th chapter of Acts. The Christian community of that early Church day was sharing all things in common. This meant that they were not owning things individually, but instead were sharing what they had in a common cause. That common cause was the complete love for each other. It meant that they didn't own things, but shared them. If they had property, they sold it and the proceeds from that sale went to feed, and clothe and house each other.

Two of these people, a husband and wife named Ananias and Sapphira had a possession ~~which was normal, but they contrived to withhold a portion of it for their own private use.~~ of property. They disposed of the property ~~and~~ which was normal, but they contrived to withhold a portion of it for their own private use. So ~~they came~~ the man, Ananias came to Peter and presented this sum to him to be place in the common treasury. We are not told all of the details, but in all probability the scheme was revealed to Peter by the Holy Spirit. Besides this common sense would have played a part in this as well. It would be like one of us having a house valued at 20, 000 and letting it go for 10,000. Unless the property were run down and condemned, common sense would dictate that it be sold as close to the value price as possible, and more possibly to strive to get more.

Ananias is confronted by Peter with this accusation and because of his deceit, God strikes him dead. He is taken out for burial and his wife arrives on the scene. She doesn't know the circumstances of her husband's death three hours before.

Peter asks her about the property and she tells the same lie as her husband and Peter asks her the same question, "How come you two have agreed to tempt God's Holy Spirit with this lie?" He tells her that the footsteps of those who took

her husband out for burial can be heard approaching the door, and they have me to carry her out as well. At this point God also strikes her dead and she is taken out for burial as well.

The fitting climax to this is found in the 11th verse, "And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things." In other words, this lesson had a sobering effect upon those who learned that God doesn't take kindly to those who would cheat Him.

But Let's return to the wealthy man who made up the illustration we used earlier. Have you answered the question as to whether you would steal and take from him as many of the neighbors did? Did you come up with the answer of, "Not me. I would never do that?" I hope that many of you didn't. Who was the man in the illustration? It is and was Almighty God. He owns all and is the wealthiest owner Butler or the world has ever known. His construction and building supply business is the upbuilding of the lives of those who know Him as their God andaviour. His residence that He built is this Church, St. Paul's. The neighbors who have had the use of His residence are you and I and all those who have been here before us.

But you ~~xxxx~~ see, many, many people have come and gone in this congregation who have ~~not~~ taken from God and have not given in return. There are some of us here today who have been doing this for years and expecting God's blessing on our stealing from Him that which is rightfully His. Yes, my friends, that's what it amounts to when we refuse to render to God what is God's. You have heard ~~xxxxpreachabouttithingxxxx~~ it being preached about tithing, yet you won't take it seriously and strive to do this in your lives. Then you wonder why your life isn't blessed like some other people's. We will never know until we reach eternity how many of the members of this congregation have lived shortened lives and not received all that God could give them because they have refused to render to Him that which is rightfully His. Like Ananias and Sapphira were struck down ahead of their time, I believe God continues to do this today. There are still things God desires of us and one is to not only accept what He

blesses us with, but to also return a certain portion back to Him for His use.

return He blesses us with more and more in health and prosperity.

Tithing is something that all Christians should strive to attain and practice.

The erroneous view is that tithing consists of money, talent, and time added together making 10% total. This is wrong. Tithing means 10% of your material blessings and your work and labor is given without regard to whether it is 10% or whatever.

Once again you and I are being asked to pledge to support this congregation and its work. Have you made up your mind that you are merely going to do what you did last year, or have done for some years with no change? Or are you going to seriously and prayerfully sit down and ponder what God would have you to do concerning working toward tithing in your life?

I know as well as you do that inflation has hit all of us very hard. But inflation and other excuses are merely that, excuses. Let us instead seek God's guidance and act accordingly. I ask of you nothing which I myself am unwilling to do. We tithe because we tried it several years ago and have found the blessings which God has provided since. Let me share this story with you and then let us each go home today and pray seriously and earnestly about ~~this~~ what God wants us to do.

(Illustration of newspaper boy, businessman and ~~millionaire~~ 100,000 asking prayers from his pastor on what to do)

(Illustration of God multiplying a man's offering by 10)

Think about this. Pray about this, and let God speak to you before you just use your human instincts to make your decision. May God make each of us aware that we cannot cheat God and expect Him to bless us in return.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost Nov. 4, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Jeff Knauer, Brian Hollefreund - Acolytes

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude: "The Heavens Declare" Marcello

*Hymn No. 20 "God of might"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "O God, you have taught us to keep all your heavenly commandments by loving you and our neighbors; grant us the spirit of peace and grace, that we may be both devoted to you with our whole heart and untied to each other with a pure will. Forgive us we ask in Christ's name. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Nun Bitten Wir" Buxtehude

Anthem: "Father of Heaven" Willan

Sung by Karen Maloney and Chancel Choir

Scripture 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

Sermon: "The Mummy Who Spoke"

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 466 "He leadeth me"

Benediction

Three Fold Amen

Postlude "Agincoourt Hymn"

Dunstable

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by

Mrs. Mildred Wiles in memory of "Loved Ones" and

Mrs. Lois Wogan in Loving memory of "Husband" Earl.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Charles Penar,

Dan Bosko, Robert Knauer and Dave McMillin.

Elder and Mrs. Paul Campbell will greet the Congregation at the door this morning.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Barb Vargo, and Beth Burns.

The attendance last Sunday was 200.

Today after the Service - Presentation of the Budget and also the Election of Elders and Deacons. IF YOU LEAVE, PLEASE BRING \$1.00. Those that order apple butter please see Virginia Mangel today.

Tuesday - 7:30 - Volleyball and Basketball.

Anyone out of high school and up. See Bill Ohl.

Christian Enlistment Sunday is next Sunday. Please

turn your cards into the office or put them in the

offering plate. Please make an extra effort to do

so this year. We need your financial support also.

Monday - 7:30 - Mary Prugh Circle Meeting at the Church.

Wednesday - 7:30 - Council Meeting

Thurs. - The Newsletter will be published - please

have all material in by Wednesday.

Coming - November 15 - Butler Area Laymen's Dinner

at St. Paul's U.C.C. in Connoquenessing. Dinner is

at 6:30 P.M. Chuck Penar and J. Walter Harmon have

tickets. Price is \$3.50.

Mary Lou Davis and Bea Tait will be visiting the

Hospital this week.

Hospitalized: Eleanor Sandbach, BCMH; Jane Andrews,

Allegheny General; Eleanor McWilliams - Basheline,

Grove City.

Tonight: Teacher's Training Class 6:30 to 8:30,

Lessons 5 and 6.

Undershepherds will pick up there material next Sunday

after the Worship Service.

Congregation needs to select a name for the new

Multi-Purpose Building. Rehoboth Hall has been

suggested.

"The Mummy Who Spoke"

Scrip: 2 Cor. 2:14-17; Text: 2 Cor 2:17 NASB

Chas Colton Eng writer=Imit is sincerst form flattery
Ill gud & bad imitations

Show silk flower & explain butiful, but

Girls want real diamond, no imit & sum1 sed=why set
ttle for imitations & this basic wat P say Cor.

Vs 15=whethr peop turn 2 Xp, or liv worldly P & thoz
preach Xp hav specl aroma

Thez peop C livs liv truth, sincerty & no imit
vs 16=aroma, fragranc not same 4 ea (explain)

Vs 16b=P ask who adequat?=nun us R, but musB availble
vesels 4 G work

Vs 17=Expl peddlers & Scrip ful them=examp 1 Ki 14:2
vs 25=Reho Bgan rein 931 BC & 42; 5th yr=926BC 25

Dav bilt grt kingdom & Sol Bgn destroy & reho cont
He imit of wat shud B

vss 26 & 27=Gold shield made Sol 1 Ki 10:16-17

lrg=15lb gold, smal 5 lb gold ea

Reh's he concern bout this, feel loss etc?

No=vs 27=made imitat & we C wat hap peop let values
Bcum blur

This hap Ch 2day=Examp Vandergrift & pastor/wife
wait 4it 2die & he create terminal illness

Peop say=preach gud serm, but no do anything else

We accept imit in all walks lif

Many cong no hear Biblicl preach, lectur positiv
think, social issues being taut & advanced

Stil others preach Biblicl & cong want sumthin no
stir up & deman they chang livs & lifestyles

P sed vs 17=preach sincerty from G & Xp & no water i
it down 2suit few peop

rait from sholder Gosp & demand chang as G want

4-Reho kingdom disaster=10 trib secede & K Shishak
took wealth & power

Irony this=1930 sum 2000 yr latr mummy discovr in
plac call Tanis

Mummy encase in coffin silver & determ K Shishak
Coffin encase outr coffin pure Gold & this Sol shield
out livs stan 4th everday, wat do peop C?

Real thing, or imit? Nun us perf, but 4giv thru Xp
& lif shud B dif Bcuz this & peop shud C gold shine

Many yr ago G permit humanistic, heathn king 2 comp-
romise a kingdom and Peop

at tim no1 gav thot 2outcum deeds; centuries latr,
mummy long ded spok an illus 2world G no tolerat

ations, but want gold shin 4th & not brinze

R U & I wil 2let world compro us our livs? R U wil
settl 4 imit? Worl await our anser. G await whethr we

pedlers or sincere foloers His Word. May we B sincere

The Mummy Who Spoke"

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 N.A.S.B.

Text: 2 Corinthians 2:17

~~XXXXXXXX~~ Charles Colton said, "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."

If we think about this we can see that on the surface certain forms of imitation would be beneficial. Someone for instance who sought to imitate Abraham Lincoln or George Washington, would for the most part be imitating what the world recognizes as good men.

But what would we say if someone chose to imitate Adolph Hitler? Or Josef Stalin? Then the imitation would be harmful and undesirable. So we must ask, "Is all imitation good?" The answer of course is "No." We can see for instance that an imitation flower although beautiful, cannot compare to the real thing. (Illustrate silk flower)

An imitation diamond is not desired by the young lady seeking an engagement ring, as the real thing. "So why settle for imitations," someone else had said.

This is basically what Paul was speaking about to the people of the church in Corinth.

He was saying that the real thing, not an imitation, gives forth an aroma or a fragrance all its own. In the 15th verse he says that whether those who hear turn their lives over to the Lord, or whether they continue to live the worldly life, they cannot say otherwise than Paul and those who are preaching Christ have that special aroma about them. In other words they are seeing ~~xlives~~ lives being lived for the Lord in truth and sincerity. No imitation about it. The aroma, or fragrance is not the same as he points out in verse 16. To those who want to ~~live~~ continue living the worldly life, they will continue to smell the aroma of what they should be doing, but their lives are continuing to lead to spiritual death, and eternal ~~separation~~ separation from God. To the ones who want to follow Christ, it is a fragrance of spiritual life and ~~eternally~~ eternal life with Him.

At the end of this verse Paul questions his qualifications to be God's servant.

"Who is adequate for these things?" Who indeed. None of us are, but we are to be the available vessels through which God wants to work and operate.

Then Paul makes the comparison between the real thing and the imitation. He says he and his fellow preachers are not like many who are mere peddlers of the Word of God. These people were imitations of what they should have been. There is an illustration in God's Word of what happens to those who are imitations of what they should be. The Scriptures are full of such illustrations but this one is tucked away in a small portion of insignificant Scripture, so that it is glossed over and forgotten.

It is found in 1 Kings chapter 14, beginning at the 25th verse. Very simply it tells matter of factly that the King of Egypt, came to Jerusalem and took away the shields of gold. ^{vs 25 & 26.} What it doesn't say is that this invasion was a great slaughter for those who had to be involved in it in any way. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ David had built a great empire. The people of Israel were known far and wide for the vast kingdom they had. ^{THEY WERE THE GREATEST & STRONGEST KNOWN IN THE WORLD} They were also known as the firm followers and believers in Almighty God. But Solomon began to turn from God and his sons who came to the throne took them even further from God. Rehoboam began to ~~reign~~ reign around 931 B.C. and in the 5th year of his reign, about the year 926 B.C. this invasion took place. In the previous verses it tells how Rehoboam permitted the idolatry and immorality to continue in the kingdom. Thus he was only an imitation of what he should have been.

We live in age of imitation. We have imitations of all things. In our desire to get things done in a hurry we have all sorts of instant things. We have instant coffee and instant tea. But they are only imitations of the real thing. We have ~~imitation~~ imitation jewelry and flowers, but they cannot compare with the beauty of the real thing.

Just this week I was involved in a conversation about some of the problems of congregations and churches in our denomination. I knew of a church which I had served for a month as a lay-minister. These people were warm and friendly and reflected a real genuine ministry which had been ~~there~~ theirs to enjoy. But in recent years a man has taken that church and has expressed the belief that his task is merely to be responsible for seeing that the doors of that church close forever. He is there waiting for the funeral and he is the one

who has created its terminal illness. He said his wife has a good job with a wonderful pension coming to her, and he is merely marking time until he retires and the church will close its doors at that time.

Meanwhile, what is the church doing about it? Some of the members say he preaches a nice sermon and does what has to be done. But to what does that church owe its allegiance? ~~To~~ How does a pastor like that justify his ministry in the light of what God wants it to be?

In both instances the congregation and the pastor are acting as imitations and as peddlers of the Word of God as Paul was saying to the church in Corinth.

When Rehoboam acted as an imitation of what God wanted His kings to be, what happened.? Well, if we go back to the story found in 1 Kings 14, we see that the invasion by Shishak was a huge success and he made off with the treasures of the House of God. Among these were the golden shields which Solomon had made. In the 10th chapter of 1 Kings the 16th and 17th verses we read of King

Solomon having these shields made. We are told the large shields contained about 15 pounds of gold and the smaller ones had about 5 pounds of gold each.

So now the very beautiful pieces of rich art work were now in the hands of a heathen king and nation. What does Rehoboam do? Is he concerned enough to demand their return? Does he feel the loss deeply as though a part of his religious background and heritage are taken away forever?

No, he doesn't feel any of this. He merely has his artists design new shields and these are made out of common bronze. These bronze shields now took the place of the golden ~~ones~~ shields. The guards stood guard with the bronze shields instead of what God had blessed them with during the time of Solomon. Israel had reached a new low, where it didn't seem to care that the things of value and worth were being replaced with things of imitation.

I think we can see in this illustration what can happen when a race of people, or even an individual lets their values become blurred. We see around us today vast evidence of the gradual decay of our society. Our values are being altered and changed in so many areas and ways. Right before our eyes we are accepting imitations instead of the real thing. In many congregations it is

~~nevertheless~~ not Biblical preaching ~~being~~ that is being heard. Lectures on positive thinking and social platforms are being taught and advanced. In still other congregations Biblical preaching is used and the congregation wants something that doesn't stir them up and demand they change their lives and lifestyles.

Paul wasn't willing to be an imitation he went on to say, "But as from sincerity but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God." He meant that they were sincere in what they were preaching and it wasn't altered or changed to suit the whims of a few individuals. It was straight from the shoulder Gospel preaching and it demanded a change in the hearts and lives of its hearers.

Rehoboam reigned only 17 years. He was 41 when he began to reign and 17 years later at the age of 58 he died. God permitted the wealth of the empire to be taken away and to let them make imitations of the real thing. During his reign the magnificent kingdom of Solomon plunged from its pinnacle of power to the depths. Ten of the twelve tribes seceded from his kingdom and the neighboring king Shishak plundered them and took their wealth and power.

The irony of this event is that in 1939 some 2000 years later a mummy was uncovered at a place called Tanis. The mummy was in a coffin of silver. It was determined that this was the Egyptian king Shishak. But the silver coffin was encased in solid gold. This was in all probability the same gold which King Solomon had used to make the shields for the Temple guards.

Our very lives stand forth for the whole world to see everyday. Do they see imitations, or do they see the real thing? None of us is perfect, but we are forgiven sinners through Christ. The life you and I live should reflect that touch of gold upon it. We cannot and must not cheapen it with bronze when we are called to be the real thing and not an imitation.

Many, many centuries ago God permitted a worldly and humanistic king to compromise God's kingdom and people. At the time no one ever gave a thought as to the outcome of these deeds. Centuries later a corpse, a mummy long dead spoke as an illustration to the world that God will not tolerate imitations, but instead, wants the gold to show forth and not the bronze.

Are you and I willing to let the world around us compromise us in our lives?

Are you willing to settle for an imitation when you can have the real thing?

The world awaits our answer by what we do and what we say and how we live.

God awaits our answer by the same standard, but also by whether we are content to be mere peddlers of His Word, or sincere followers of it. May God direct each of us to seek the real and genuine and let the world settle for the imitations.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Christian Enlistment Sunday November 11, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Jeff Knauer, Brian Hollefreund - Acolytes

* * * * *
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Now Let All Loudly Praise God" Willan
*Processional Hymn No. 43 When morning gilds the skies"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) "Our Father, we seek your help.
We are powerless without you. We thank you for home and
family, but we know that even in this realm we are not
quite what we should be. We are cross at times and we
treat others of our families badly. We know that we
should be loving, but too often we are hateful. Our
list could go on and on, but you know what we are and
what we have done. So we earnestly pray that you will
forgive us, for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen."

*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology No. 551

Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests

Solo "I Walked Today"

O'Hara

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Elevation"

Goldsworthy

Anthem: "Rejoice Today" Darst - Chancel Choir

Scripture Ezra 8:21-32

Sermon: "Two Feats To Stand On."

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 474 "I've found a Friend"

Benediction

Three Fold Amen

Postlude

Morris

* * * * * *Congregation Standing * * * * *

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Nazaruk to the "Glory of God"

Serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder, John Snow,
Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel.

Elder and Mrs. Harry Fry will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this morning.

Cyndy McWilliams and Lorie Zavacky will be in Nursery
this morning.

> Hospitalized: Jane Andrews - Allegheny General and
Mrs. Eleanor McWilliams - Bashline Hospital

Under Shepherds will please pick up their material
after the Service this morning.

> Monday - 12 - Youth Ministry Dinner here at St. Paul's

Tuesday - 6:30 - Board of Christian Education Meeting.

Wed. - 7:30 - Golden Circle - A craft night is planned

Everyone is to bring a pair of scissors for this
project.

Thurs. - 10:30 A.M. Mary Martha Circle will have their
meeting at the home of Helen Sheppeck.

Thurs. 6:30 - Butler Area Laymen's Dinner at St. Paul's
U.C.C. Connoquenessing - Price is \$3.50. Contact

Charles Penar or J. Walter Harmon for tickets.

Next Sunday is Family Thank Offering Sunday.

Every Tuesday - 7:00 - Volleyball and Basketball

her at St. Paul's. See article in Newsletter.

Please get your commitment cards back as quickly as
possible they should all be in by next Sunday.

The attendance last Sunday was 190.

Dick Mangel and Lloyd Link will be visiting the
Hospital this week.

> Tonight - 6:30-8:30 - Teacher's Training.

Don't forget Nov. 25 - Advent Wreath Making - afternoon
and evening.

Mrs. Eleanor Sandbach would like to thank the Congre-
gation for the lovely Cards, get well wishes and
Prayers while she was in the Hospital.

Your Thankoffering envelopes are with your regular
envelopes in the packets.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
OF SAGAMORE

November 15 1998

PASTOR RALPH LINK WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

GREETINGS AND JOYS OF THE WEEK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

**HYMN-----#601

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY

PRAYER AND PRAYER REQUESTS

HYMN-----#455

SCRIPTURE: Ezra 8:21-32

SERMON: "Two Feats To Stand On"

**INVITATIONAL HYMN-----#574

**BENEDICTION

SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.....

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you so desire.

** Please stand

ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF THE WEEK.....

- * Anyone interested in joining the church please see Ralph
- * **November 15, 1998:** A special offering will be taken for Purpose of finishing the windows.
- * **November 22, 1998:** Thanksgiving dinner following the Church service. Annual Church meeting.
- * Please keep the BILO receipts coming every little bit adds up.

NEXT WEEK NEW MEMBERS
PAPER PR MENU NEXT WEEK

HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

November 20-----Maxine Weaver

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY...

November 17-----Don & Margaret Bailey

MR. COLEMAN - HEART ATTACK
CHRIS - HEART
SUE - SON & GRANDSON
SIS -
BOB
BOBBIE & AOA MARITAL
KATHY - CANCER
KATHY HILLMAN - TEST
JOE - SUGAR
PEG - 2 UNPOKED

"Two Feats To Stand On"

Scrip: Ezra 8:21-32; Text: Ezra 8:22, 31

Lif any respects mattr perspectiv
how lk circumsyances determ attitud
(Examp wif want 2B optimistic; old lady 2 teeth)
Pr & Scrib Ez mus bin such individ
I say vu lif shalo stanpt, but poses gud atitud lif
457BC Ez step 11s histry uniqu way
Artaxerxes K Persia, Esther step-son
about 60yr Temp complet, 80yr aftr 1st return Jeru
7th yr K Artax decre Ez tak comple peop, money, g & s
& return this 2 Jeru
Ez lead 1500 peop & tak treasur there
No kno much bout him, but positiv, dominant uncompro
Sed wat mus B sed, had job & did; let chip fal wher ma
Vs 21=sho wat kind man was; fast & prayr
no wish=wash sentimentl Blief=I BLIEV G SAY, faith
He knu wat job was, wat requir & trust 2 L's keeping
How is Ur faith? Do U kno it found upon Rock?
Or is Ur lif liv=Hope so; MayB G wil tak care me?
(Illus Baptist exhibit NY World Fair 1964)
Many peop lik this=out of order
Read concord phrase I KNO & C many time used 2indic
positiv Blief by men, women of God
P say=I KNO WHOM I HAV BLIEVED, & AM PERSUADED THAT
HE IS ABL 2KEEP THAT WHICH I HAV COMIT UN2 HIM
AGAINST THAT DAY
& WE KNO ALL THING WORK2GETHR 4GUD 2THOS LUV GM2
THOZ CAL ACCORDING 2 HIS PURPOSE.
Ez no jus wil 2stan & declar faith, did sumthin bout
vs 31=Bgin 1st mth, Mar/Apr, Bgin 15=Mar 27, 457BC
travl tuk thru treachrous, dangerous places
robbers, thieves, murders, etc
vs 32=Simpl statement=came 2 Jeru & abod 3days
Arriv July 24, 457 & record chap 7:8 & explain
Ez perform 2nd feat & that Action
James say=F without works is ded & Ez prov pt
He liv & sho wat G want from all Blievr
(Illus woman spend money which nest egg)
U & I shud B this way; shud B tired sit wat G entrust
with
Shud B exercis faith direct serv in cong & community
How may U bothr shar faith U claim with others?
" " " giv away wat bin given 2U?
1 thing sit here & say Yes L I Bliev, nothr go & shar
G's les Ez Bcuz wil perform 2feat 2 Stand On
lk if way=hav 2 feet & 1=faith, othr=Action
Requir wilnes comit lif 2 L=(Illus Detroit marriag)
2yield? Js Xp=Faith/Action; RU wil 2step 4th on both?
May G direct us quit cry bout lif & comit selves
2Him.

SERMON: EZ 0:21-22
 LIF MANY RESPECTS MATTER PERSPECTIV
 HOW LR CIRCUMS DETERM ATTUD
 (ILUS 2BOYS OP & PESSI, 2ROOMS)
 FR & SCRIP EZ MUS BIN SUCH C~~OMP~~INDIV
 N~~W~~ JAY HE WU LIF FR/SHALO SINDPT,
 B~~L~~ MUS HAD GUD ATTUD BOUT LIF
 457 BC EZ STEP INZISR HISTRY
 KING ARTA-ZUTXES RULR OF PERSIA
 HE QUEEN ESTHERS STEP SON
 TIME=60YR AFTR TEMPL COMPLET & 80
 AFTR JEWS 1st GON BAK 2JERUSALEM
 7th YR K ARTAZURKES DECREED EZRA WAS
 2TAK GRP JEW PEO W/GOLD/SILVR/MONEY
 WH/KING GIV THEM & 2TAK 2JERU
 EZ NOW LDR 1500 PEO TAK TREASURS
 2JERU FR/BABYLONIA
 NO KNO MUCH BOUT EZ & FR/BUK DETERM
 POSITIV LDR & MUS BIN RATHER COLD~~XXX~~
 UNCOMPROMIS FIGUR
 MUS BIN MAN SED WAT HAD 2BSED & LET
 CHIPS FAL WHER MAY
 HAD JOB 2DO & DID IT AS LED BY GOD
 WAT SORT OF MAN WAS HE???
 VS 21=HE WAS G'S MAN & HE SOT HIM
 VS 22-23=HE WAS A MAN OF FAITH
 THIS 1st OF 2FEATS 2STAND CN
 TH/FEAT OF FAITH - TRUE FAITH
 NOT WISHY/WASHY SENTIMENTAL BLIEF
 BUT SOLID=I BLIEF WAT G SAYS BAITH
 EZ KNU WAT HIS JOB WAS & WAT REQUIRD
 Q IM & JUS ENTHRSTD 2 L'S KEEPING &
 TOK HIM AT HIS WORD
 HOW IS UR FAITH? IS IT FOUNDED UPON
 TH/ROCK???
 OR IS IT A "I HOPE SO," OR "MAYBE GOD"
 WIL TAK CARE OF ME" FAITH?
 2MANY PEO HAV THIS "CUM & GO" FAITH
 MANY HAV MISTAKN IDEAS BOUT FAITH
 TO BGIN WITH
 (ILUS BAPTIST EXHIBIT 64 WORLD'S FAITH
 READ IN BIB CONCORDANC PHRAS "I KNO"
 C HOW MANY TIMES USED IN BIBL INDICA
 POSITIV BLIEF BY MEN/WOMN OF GOD
 APOSTL PAUL ONE THEZ STRNG CHARACTES
 OF FAITH
 HE SAYS: I KNO WHOM I HAV BLIEVD & I
 AM PERSUADED THAT HE IS ABL 2KEEP
 THAT WHICH I HAV COMITED UN2 HIM
 AGAINST THAT DAY

HE SAYS FURTHER: AND WE KNO THAT ALL THINGS WORK 2GETHR 4GOOD
 2THEM THAT LIV GOD, 2THEMWHO R CALLD ACCORD TO HIS PURPOSE
 AND HE GOES ON & ON
 BUT EZNOT JUS WIL STAND UP DECLAR FAITH IN GOD INSTED DID SUMTH
 ABOUT IT
 VS 31=BGAN JURNY CN 12TH DAY 1ST MNTH WAS MARCH/APRIL
 A~~C~~ JEW RECKON MONTH BGAN CN 15TH DAY
 SO JURNY BGAN 12TH DAY ~~MNTHXXXXXXMEXEEM~~ 1st MNTH WH/WUD BIN
 MARCH 27, 457 BC
 ON TH/WAY THER LURKD ROBBERS/MURDRERS/DANGERUS PEOPLE
 EZRA RECORD THIS MATTR OF FACTLY VS 31B= READ AGAIN
 VS 32=SIMPLY STATES WE APRIVED DESTINATIN
 THEY ARIVD JULY 24, 457 BC & THIS RECORD EZ 7:8 WH/STATES.....
 "AND HE CAME TO JERU IN THE FIFTH MONTH,WH/WAS IN TH/7th YR OF
 THE KING"
 HERE EZ PERFORM 2ND FEAT & THAT IS "ACTION"
 JAMES TELLS US: "FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD"
 EZ EXAMPL OF PROVING THIS PT
 HE WIL HAV FAITH G TEL WAT 2DO,BUT WUD ALSO GO W/HIM AS DO IT
 THIS WAT G REQUIR ALL OF HIS PEOPL WHO WANT TO FOLLO HIM
 (ILUS CWMAN SPENDING NEST EGG BCUZ TIRED SIT CN IT)
 U & I SHUDB THIS WAY
 WE SHUDB TIRED OF SIT CN WAT GOD ENTRUST US WITH
 WE SHUDB EXERCIS OUR FAITH W/IN CONG & W/OUT IN COMMUNITY
 IT IS ONE THING TO SAY, "YES LORD I TRULY BLIEF IN U & ACKNOWLEDG
 YOU AS MY LORD & SAVIOR,
 BUT IT QUITE ANOTHR "GO OUT & SHOW IT BY OUR ACTIONS
 G BLESSED EZ BCUZ HE WILLING 2PERFORM 2FEATS TO STAND CN
 HE PERFORMED THE/FEAT OF FAITH, & HE PERFORMED TH/FEAT OF ACTION
 IT WE LK AT THIS IN SLITLY DIF WAY, WE C G HAS GIVN EA OF US
 TWO FEET CN WHICH TO STAND
 W/ ANOT WALK OR MOV UNLES WE USE BOTH FEET
 THERFOR WE NEED TO USE ONE FOOT OF FAITH TO MOVE AHED, AND THE
 OTHER FOOT OF ACTION TO GET WHER WE R GOING
 TO DO SO REQUIRES A WILLINGNESS ON OUR PART ONCE AGAIN TO COM-
 MIT THIS LIF TO TH/LORD
 (ILUS DETROIT CPLE & MARRIAG LICENSE)
 TO YIELD TO TH/CAL OF JS XP IS TO SHO 4TH FAITH & ACTIN
 THEZ R TH/TWO FEET TO STAND CN
 R U WIL 2STEP 4TH CN BOTH??
 MAY G DIREC US 2GO 4TH COMITTD 2TH/TASK OF GIV FEET 2OUR FAITH

"Two Feats To Stand On"

Scripture: Ezra 8:21-32

Text: Ezra 8: 22, 31

Life in many instances is really a matter of perspective. It is how we look at circumstances that determines our attitude.

(Illustration of wife wanting to always give her husband cheerful news, also, little old lady with two teeth that meet)

The Priest and Scribe Ezra must have been such an individual. This is not to say that he ~~was~~ viewed life from a shallow standpoint, but he certainly must have possessed a very good attitude about life.

In the year 457 B.C. the man Ezra steps upon the scene of Israel's history in a rather unique fashion. ^{At} This time King Artaxerxes was the ruler of Persia. He was Queen Esther's step-son, and this was about 60 years after the Temple had been completed, and about 80 after the Jews had first gone back to Jerusalem.

In the 7th year of the reign of King Artaxerxes he decreed that Ezra was to take a complement of the Jewish people along with the gold and silver and money which the king was giving to them, and to take these things to Jerusalem.

Ezra was the leader of a group of about 1500 people who were to carry these treasures to Jerusalem from Babylonia. We do not know much about the man Ezra, and all we can assume is that by his very positive and dominant leadership he was well able to perform his task. From the tone of the book bearing his name one must consider him as a rather cold and uncompromising figure, a man who said what had to be said, and who did what had to be done and let the chips fall where they may. He had a job to do and he did it, as he was led to do by God.

The first inkling of what sort of man he was is given to us in the 21st verse of our Scripture. He declared a fast along with prayer to seek God's direction and guidance. He declares in the 22nd verse his faith that what he told the king would come to pass. Here is the first of "Two Feats To Stand On." It is the feat of faith. True faith. Not just a superficial wishy-washy sentimental belief. But instead, a solid, "I believe what God says," faith to live by.

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Ezra knew what his job was, what was required of him and he just entrusted it to the Lord's keeping and took Him at His Word.

How is your faith? Do you know that it is founded upon the Rock? Or is your life lived with a "hope so," or, "maybe God will take care of me?"

Too many people have this come and go sort of faith. Many of them have mistaken ideas about faith to begin with.

(Illustration of Baptist exhibit 1964 New York World's Fair)

Read in a concordance the phrase, "I know," and see how many times ~~it~~ is used in the Bible to indicate a positive belief by the men and women of God. Paul stands forth as one of these very strong characters of faith. And he says, "I know whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." He says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." And he goes on and on.

But Ezra was not just willing to stand up and declare his faith in God, instead, he did something about it. In the 31st verse we read that they began their journey on the 12th day of the 1st month, which was March/April. Their month ~~month Nisan which corresponds to April~~ began on the 15th day & so the 12th day would have been March 27, 457. ~~THEIR~~ travels took them through and over very treacherous areas, ~~where~~ where

lurked robbers and gangs of murderers and other dangerous people. Ezra records all of this matter-of-factly, (read vs 31b). Then he simply states, "We came to Jerusalem and abode there three days." They arrived on July 24, 457 and this is recorded in the 7th chapter, the 8th verse, (read this). (Explain the meaning of about, or an inconsistency).

Here we see then that Ezra performed the second feat and that is "Action."

James tells us that "Faith without works is dead," and this example of Ezra proves the point. He was willing to have faith that God would not only tell him what to do, but would go with him while he was doing it. This is what God requires of all who say they want to follow Him.

(Illustration of woman spending the "Nest Egg" because tired of sitting on it)
You and I should be this way. We should be tired by now of sitting on what God

has entrusted us with. We should be exercising that faith in directions of service in this congregation and out in the community. How many of you are bothering to share the faith that you claim you have with others? How many of you are giving away that which has been given to you? It is one thing to sit here and say, "Yes Lord, I truly believe in you and acknowledge you as my Lord and Saviour." But it is quite another thing to go out and to show it by our "Actions."

God blessed Ezra because he was willing to perform "Two Feats To Stand On." He performed the feat of Faith, and he performed the feat of Action. But you see if you look at it in a slightly different way, God has given each of us two feet on which to stand. We cannot walk or move unless we use both feet. Therefore, we need to use the one foot of Faith and the other foot of Action and then we too can stand as God wants us to.

To do so requires a willingness on our part to commit this life to our Lord.

(Illustration of couple in Detroit, who claimed marriage license after 11 yrs).

To Yield to the call of Jesus Christ is to show forth Faith and Action.

These are the "Two Feet To Stand On." Are you willing to step forth on both, or instead are you only willing to show the Faith and then doubt the rest?

May God direct us to quit crying and complaining about the times in which we live, and go forth committed to the task of giving feet to our faith.

October 19, 1979

Counselors/Advisors:

Frequently the Team and the Executive Committee do not receive first hand information regarding personal experiences you have had with individuals in the process of counseling.

If you have had an experience which you feel has been unique and of value to the Team and the Executive Committee, would you kindly take a moment and write it out on this sheet of paper, (using both sides if necessary) and hand it to Rev. Ralph Link.

Comments:

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ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Thank Offering Sunday November 18, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mr. Robert Dellen, Speaker
Mr. Paul Pfabe, Liturgist
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Beth Feder and Brian Hollefreund - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude: "A Song of Faith" Mueller
*Processional Hymn No. 440 "God of our Fathers"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Most Gracious God, by whose
appointment the seasons come and go, and who makest the
fruits of the earth to minister to the needs of men, we
offer thee our thanksgivings that thou hast brought us
through the circuit of another year, and that according
to thy promise, seedtime and harvest have not failed.
We thank thee that thou hast prospered the husbandman
in his toil, and hast crowned the year with thy goodness.
We praise thee, the giver of all good gifts, for the
plentiful harvests to feed the hungry and minister to
our comfort. At the remembrance of thy bounty we offer
unto thee the sacrifices of our thanksgiving, and pray
that thou wilt feed our souls with the Bread of Life. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Lay Person: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Quartet "We Gather Together" Kremser
Nancy & Lloyd Link, Karen Kennedy and Diantha Hawkes

Thankoffering Concerns
Offering - Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kradel and Family- Thank-
Offertory "Andante Cantabile" And offering.
Ingathering Service
Leader: Let us pray, O God, who art the giver of
every good and perfect gift.
Response: Praise and glory be unto Thee.
Leader: In gratitude for all thy mercies, and for the
hope of thy unfailing grace.
Response: We dedicate our lives.
Leader: To the teaching of Jesus' way of life; to the
proclamation of thy gospel in our land and in
lands across the sea.
Response: We dedicate our efforts.
Leader: To the ministering of the sick and the aged,
to the training of little children in the
knowledge of God.
Response: We dedicate these boxes.
Leader: To the efforts for ending poverty and
malnutrition among the less fortunate and
helping to bring them better health and in
building the Kingdom of God.
Response: We dedicate our lives, our efforts, our gifts.
Leader: Receive them, O God, and use them to thy glory.
Response: For Jesus, our Redeemer's sake, Amen.
Anthem: "Thanks Be to Thee" Handel
Scripture: Psalm 100
Sermon: "THANKSGIVING"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn of Dedication No. 442 "Not alone for mighty empire"
Benediction and Three Fold Amen
Organ Postlude: "Recessional on 'St. Anne'" Young
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Vargo to "Glory of God"
Serving as Ushers today are *Robbie Vinroe, Brian
Kennedy, Randy Dellen and Bob Dellen.
Thankoffering Service - Thurs. Nov. 22 at 10:00 A.M.
St. Michael's - Rev. Denapoli - Speaker.
Nursery will be provided today by Tina Groves and
Diane Hollefreund.
Hospitalized - Robert Dreher
Deacon and Mrs. Harry Burns will be at the door today.
Rob Sybert & Bruce McBride will visit Hospital this week.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost November 25, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Beth Feder, Helen Hilliard - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Hymn to Joy" Young
*Processional Hymn No. 21 "Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "O Father, giver of such bounty
as we see each harvest time, we know we are not worthy
to gather the crumbs from under your table; yet, out of
your great love and mercy, you have not only bestowed
this material abundance, but beyond all our deserving
have given us a Saviour, Jesus Christ. Help us to
believe, and believing to accept; and accepting, help
us to act. Your will, not ours be done. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Installation of Elders and Deacons
Elders - Robert Dellen and Robert Tait
Deacons - Lloyd Link for unexpired term of George
Eichhorn (2 years); Dave McMillin, Rob Vinroe,
Karen Kennedy, Dutch Bolam.
*Offering
Offertory "The King of Love" Young

Anthem: "It's A Happy Day" Youth Choir
Ginger Harbison and Lloyd Link - Youth Choir Dir.
Scripture: Luke 1:5-17
Sermon: "THE FOUR RUNNER"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 239 "Soldiers of Christ, arise"
Benediction
Three Fold Amen
Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mrs. Ann Williams in memory of "Loved Ones"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Richard Mangel, Don
Kingsley, Art Carney and Gary Penar.
Deacon and Mrs. Art Carney will greet the Congregation
at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Diane Hollefreund.

The attendance on 11/11 was 215
Thurs afternoon at 3:00 P.M. We will meet in Rehoboth
Hall to make Family Advent Wreaths. Bring the Family,
Some greens, (real or artificial), and join the fun.
At 5:00 we will share a meal with home made vegetable
soup. *INFIRMAL*
Daily Bread Booklets are on the table in the Narthex.
Wed. - No Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. - Youth Ministry
Bill Thompson and Roy Andrews will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
Please Under Shepherds get all your slips in so they
can be put in different categories.
Please return all Commitment cards as soon as possible
this information is needed now.
- - - - -
December 2 and 16 is open for Altar Flowers - contact
Bea if interested.
Thankoffering envelopes can be put in anytime this
month. The offering will be given to American
Indians.
Every Tues. - 7:00 - Volleyball and Basketball here
at our Church - Please wear tennis shoes while
playing on the floors.

TEACHER'S TRAINING CLASS FINITE 8:30

"The Four Runner"

Scrip: Lk 1:5-17-N.A.S.B.; Text: Lk 1:17

Pt Ch yr uniq; pas thanksgiv, & not yet Advent

So lang retail merchs no hav specil sales Btween

Pre Adv Clear Sale? no observ, but cud Scripturly

May nvr thot B4, but series events B4 Js Xp arrivl

Prefer miracloous announcement, birth, minstry Jn Bap

Vs 17 scrip=Forerunner=NASB, New Eng Bible only &

submit=FOUR RUNNER bcuz 4 def thing bout Runner

17z (green)=Wat mean? Mal 4:5 (read)

very close OT predict return proph Elij B4 D of I

Js spok Elijah Gosp Mt=11th chap(read); & 17th

chap aftr Transfig=10-12(read)

He say=Jn Bap lik Elij Bt unrecogniz & kild

If Jews had receiv Him(Js Xp) of Naz, wud hav unders

OT predic & kno cum of Elij B4 day L, & Jn Bap this

vs 17=B4 HIM=mean who? It Js Xp & Jn 2B 4runner as

prom 2 Zach & Eliz

told by best known Proph Isa=Isa 40:3-5(read)

This applicbl 2Jn Bap as 1 who clear way 4 Lord

as 1 who prep peop 4 His ministry

As he minister he say Nothr 1 cum

vs 17b=2 turn harts etc=Jn knew this role well

Lk 3:8=(read)=he say=no plac faith relig ancestry

He deal peop proud heritag & nothing wrong this

danger is 2 hav this replac all else & even God

they say ISON OF SO & SO, TRIB SO & SO, DON OF ABRAHAM

Sam prob xpian Ch 2day=My fam bin Luth, Meth etc

sinc cam over on Mayapple

My grandfathr join as child & so I join; I now 3rd

generation of thoz who kno my ancestros, no kno Lord

We can Bcum so wrap up ancestors & know nothing why

Members Xp's Church

Jn no say 4get heritag, jus kno G can mak sons of ston

vs 17c=disobed 2 attitud etc=same as ~~2x~~ 3:8=bring

4th fruits in keep repent

This wud B lif liv tru repent & tak mor than say

I SORRY GOD=tak sincer hart & desir liv rt lif

(Illus burn, scar face mothr & butiful dotter)

Jn want peop 2 kno Messiah wen cum, but 2recogniz Him

as well

He fulfil 4 Runner role 4 this purpos 2 pt 2 Savio

who wud bleed, die Bhalf

His messag=turn=repent & recogniz need 4 4givnes

This 4givnes only cum from G thru Saviour

Let us lk cum Xmas season as personal this yr.

Let us C it as happen personal 4 ea us

Js came 4 U & me & this wat Jn depict as 4 Runner

"The Four Runner"

Scripture: Luke 1:5-17 N.A.S.B.

Text: Luke 1:17

We are at a point in the church year which is rather unique. We have passed Thanksgiving and are not yet into Advent. It seems rather strange that the retail merchants haven't contrived something to be selling between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Perhaps if they should be looking for something we could give them the idea of a "Pre-Advent Clearance Sale." Although we do not observe such a festival in the church year, we could well do so because there are sufficient grounds for it Scripturally.

Perhaps you have never thought of it before, but we do omit a very important series of events which take place before the arrival of Jesus Christ upon the scene. I refer to the miraculous ~~birth~~ announcement, birth, and ministry of John the Baptist.

Our Scripture for this morning only gives us a short portion of this event and we are not going to deal with all of its details, but rather, we will use the 17th verse as our text and look at what this says and means.

As we look at this verse we see a word which is only used in this version, the New American Standard version, and in the New English Bible. The word is,

"Forerunner." But I would like ~~to exchange that word~~ for us this morning to see that word in its proper context, but also to change it to two words, "Four Runner." We know what the term "Forerunner" means in the way of someone going ahead, or preceding someone else. But the words, "Four Runner," implies that there is something in the realm of "Four" definite things about this "Runner." This is what I would like us to consider this morning.

We read, "And it is he, (meaning John the Baptist), who will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah." What does this mean? If we look at the

4th chapter, the 5th verse of the book of Malachi we see recorded the words, (read this). Here ^{at} ~~in~~ the very close of the Old Testament is given a prediction of the return of the prophet Elijah before the Day of The Lord.

Jesus spoke about John representing Elijah in two different places as found in the Gospel of Matthew. He tells it first in the 11th chapter, but then He is

questioned by Peter, James and John following the Transfiguration. This is found in the 17th chapter of Matthew beginning at the 10th verse. (read 10-12). He was saying to them that Elijah is going to come as predicted in Malachi 4:5. But He is also saying that John the Baptist came like Elijah, but he was unrecognized and was killed. In both of these portions of Scripture Jesus was saying that if the Jews had received Him, Jesus of Nazareth, they would have understood the O.T. prediction of the coming of Elijah before the day of the Lord and that John the Baptist fulfilled this prediction.

As we look at this 17th verse of Luke 1 we read, "And it is he who will go as a forerunner BEFORE HIM." Now to whom is this referring? The "HIM" as found here refers to Jesus Christ and John is to be that forerunner as promised by the angel to Zacharias and Elizabeth. But more than that it was prophesied by perhaps the best known prophet among the Jews, the prophet Isaiah.

In Isaiah chapter 40, verses 3 to 5 we read, (read this). This is a prophecy which is applicable to John the Baptist as the one who "clears the way" for the Lord; as the one who prepares the people for His ~~ministry~~ arrival and ministry on earth. John knew this and as he went about in his ministry he spoke of the one to come. This then is the second part of John the Baptist as the "Four Runner."

The third role which John played as the "Four Runner" is told by the words, "To turn the hearts of the father's back to the children." John knew this role very well. In the 3rd chapter of Luke the 8th verse he says, (read this). What he is really saying about the latter part of this verse is, "Do not place your faith in your religious ancestry." He was dealing with a people who were very proud of their heritage, and there is nothing wrong with this. The danger lies in having your heritage supercede all else. These people would say, "I am a Jew. My Father is so and so of the tribe of so and so. I am a son of Abraham." For them, they didn't need anything else and quite often they lived and acted as though they didn't need God. But we have the same problem today in the Christian Church. There are those who point to their ancestry and proclaim, "My family has been Lutheran, or Methodist, or Presbyterian since they came over

on the Mayapple. Or, "My grandfather joined this church as a child and so that is why I joined it. I am now the third generation of those who do not know the Lord, but I know my ancestors." We can become so wrapped up in our past history that we know nothing of why we are members of Christ's church.

John wasn't telling them to forget their heritage, but to know that God could make sons of Abraham from stones if He desired to do so.

But this third role of John's as the "Four Runner" is also wrapped up in the 17th verse of this first chapter, as well as in this 8th verse of the 3rd chapter.

We read he is to ~~xxx~~ not only turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children, but "The disobedient to the attitude of the righteous." And in the 3rd chapter he says to "Bring forth fruits in keeping with repentance." This would be a life that is lived in a manner which shows there is true repentance. It takes more than saying "I am sorry God." It takes a sincere heart and desire to live the life of repentance.

(Illustration of burned and scarred mother & beautiful daughter)

John wanted people to not only know the Messiah when He came, but he wanted them to recognize Him. He fulfilled the "Four" roles as the "Four Runner" of Jesus Christ for ^{the} ~~this~~ purpose. of pointing them to a Saviour who would bleed and die on their behalf. His message was to turn, (repent), from their sin and recognize that they needed forgiveness. The forgiveness which only God could and would give through the Saviour.

Let us look this year at Christmeas in a very personal way. Let us see it as happening for each of us personally. Jesus came for you and me. This is what John depicted as "The Four Runner" of that Christ child.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
First Sunday in Advent December 2, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Karen Pfabe and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Nazareth" Gounod

*Processional Hymn No. 97 "Hark, the glad sound"

*Ascription - Choral Amen

*Exhortation

*Confession - (In Unison) "Our Heavenly Father, our spirits turn at this season not only to the coming of thy Son into history in the form of a babe, but also to thy coming in thy spirit. We beseech thee. O Lord, to pour thy spirit upon all who walk in darkness. Grant thy power to the weak; thy love to those who hate; and thy peace to those who know only the ugliness of strife, struggle, and turmoil. If it be thy will, make us instruments of thy power and love and peace for those who know thee not. Hear us as we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen"

*Kyrie

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: O Lord Open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology

Advent Lighting

Who's Who In the Pew

Announcements

Joys, Concerns, and Prayer requests

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "The Golden Carol" Wilson

Installation of Deacon - Dave McMillin and Deaconess - Dutch Bolam

S: "All Because of God's Amazing Grace - Howdy Bolam

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-6
Sermon: "OF PRINCES AND BEGGARS"
Rich Man

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 88 "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

*Benediction

*Three Fold Amen

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by

Mr. William A. Winters in memory of "Loved Ones"

Serving as Ushers today are Charles Penar, Dan Bosko,

Robert Knauer and Dave McMillin.

Mr. & Mrs. Gottlob Kradel will greet the congregation

at the door this morning.

Those providing Nursery this morning are: Karen Vansel

and Robin Kanuer.

Harry Burns and Harry Fry will be visiting the Hospital

this week.

Tonight - Teachers Training Class. - 6:30 - 8:30

Tonight - Senior Highs - Grades 9-12 - 6:30-8:30

Monday - 6:00 - Women's Mary Prugh Circle Tureen

Dinner here at the Church.

Wed. - Jr. High Youth - Grades 6,7,8 - from 7-8 P.M.

Wed. - 7:30 Council Meeting

Thurs. - The Newsletter will be published - Please have

all material in by Wednesday.

Family Christmas Program coming on Dec. 16 at 7:00 P.M.

Sign-up Sheet is in the Office. Basketball practice

will be on Thursday evenings. See Don Wogan, Tom

Massart or Rob Sybert for details.

A Poinsetta Chart will be passed this morning. They

will be \$5.00 each. Should you want one please fill

in the slip. The poinsetta will be used on Dec. 23.

and for Christmas eve on Dec. 24th.

If you would like to have Flowers for the 16 of Dec.

that date is still available. Please contact Bea

if you are interested.

Hospitalized: Mr. Nick Nohach and Mrs. Judy Shearer.

Norabell Cooper

"Of Princes And Beggars"

Script: Phil 2:5-6; Text: 2:6; Gold Text: 2 Cor 8:9

How rich R U? Sur cud anser varous ways;socty gol/oil
2 is desir substances in use

4many welth consis platic card
(Illus Santa, girl, candy cane & "Charg It")

Y lady lern lesns wel; sum1 sed=need plastic surgry
1 money, buying only way expres welth, richnes?

Apos P tel 2 distinct ways=1st=2 Cor 8:9 (READ)

Ea Sunday 4 thing B topic & this golden text Advent
2day=RICH MAN; 2nd place P say Scrip AM & add vs ea wk
1k 2day Scrip=READ AGAIN:

As Xpian hav same attitude as Xp in His life

vs 6a=B4 cum 2 earth was God, is God in flesh=Incarn.

Jn say Word Bcame flesh

vs 6b=Robbery=Ir sweepstake, lotry win big prize
wat do? Grab, hang on least 4 awhile

Normal react, but Js no do as human, no use G powr
wrongly

Compar this 2 Ad & Eve=Satan say=Ye B lik Gods, man fe
Vs 7=P add 2this dimension & Js say Jn 6:39

If Js G & He is; & cam 2 erth & did; then wat P say is
real revelation 2 anyone tak time underst

He left all riches, creation, power wether, destiny all
all this left Bhind & cum 2 erth; think of it

(Illus minister sleep Christmas Day & dream)

Wudn't it B sad is Advent season only Hope?

" ~~mak~~ B tragic if Mayb Next Yr G Send Sum1?

How rich R U? Do U measur everthin dolar, cents?

(Illus 2 men othr side tracks & funeral prom man)

2 many peoplxxireally kno how 2 liv, how many kno how
2 die?

Many rich this world guds, poor spiritual guds which
R of mor valu

messag 4us 2day & everday is "Of Princes & Beggars"

It of Rich Man, Js Xp who impartthis message in hart
& livs thos who trust & Bliev

(Illus 9yr girl & lettr Baby Jesus)

Cannot reach by lettr, but csn hav reach harts & livs
& this the only wealth U & I need 4 all of lif

SCRIP: PHIL 2:5-6; SERM: "OF PRINCES & BEGGERS: RICH MAN"

HOW RICH ARE YOU??

I'M SURE WE WOUL/COULD ALL ANSR IN DIFF WAY
IN PRES SOCIETY WELTH EQUAT IN TEMRS GOLD OR OIL
THEZ 2MOS DESIR SUBSTANCES IN USE
BUT WAT DUZ OUR WELTH CONSIST OF??

(I GRANDMOTHER, GRANDDAUGHTER ANN, SANTA CLAUS, & CHARGE IT)
THIS GIRL HAD DISCOVRD WAT MOS PEO WELTH CONSISTS OF-PLASTIC CARD
(SUMONE SED MOS HOMES NEED A LITTL PLASTIC SURGRY-CUT CRED CARDS)
BUT IS MONY ONLY WAY EXPRES WELTH/RICHNESS???

APOSTL PAUL SPK OF THIS 2DISTINC WAYS & WE WIL USE 4NEX SUNS ADV.

TOPIC: OF PRINCES & BEGGERS - 2DAY IT IS "RICH MAN"

THER IS A GOLDEN TEXT FOR THIS & IT IS 2 COR 8:9

this scrip set stage for this series

THEN APOS P SPKS OF OUR TOPIC IN PHIL 2, WH/WILB SCRIP EA WK
PHIL 2:5-6 - (READ)

VS 5=WE SHUD HAV SAM ATITUD AS JS AS SEEK FOLG HIM

VS 6A=FORM OF G MEANS HE G B4CAM 2ERTH

JN TELS US-IN TH/BGIN WAS THE WORD, & TH/WORD WAS W/GOD, & THE
WORD WAS GOD

THIS IS JS, & HE CAM WALK ERTH LIK U & I, HE TUK ON HUMAN FORM
INCARNATION & THIS IS WAT ADENT & XMAS IS ALL ABOUT

VS 6B=WAT DUZ IT MEAN?

(ILUS OF "SUSIE" IN CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, & "IT'S HARD 2B A WORD")

CP POWER/MIGHT/MINISTRY OF JS W/ADAM & EVE

HE DIDNT USE ALL THIS WRONGLY AS THEY DID, THEY TOLD=YE SHAL B
LIK GODS & BCUZ THIS TRIED 2B LIK GODS & TUK TH/TEMPTATIN

JS TOL MULTS AS WRITN JN 6:38=FOR I CAME DWN FR/HVN, NOT 2DO

MINE OWN WIL, BUT TH/WIL OF HIM WHO SENT MEH=(ILUS JS CHOICE)

THINK OF IT-TH/ONE WHO OWNS CATL ON A THOUS HILS, CREATR OF ALL,
WHO NTROLS WETHR & HOLDS CREATINS DESTNY IN OWN HANDS,

CAME TO ERTH & LEFT IT ALL BHIND

(I. XMAS CARD & STORY OF MINISTERS DREAM)

WUDNT IT B TRAGIC IF ALL CUD DO THIS SUNDAY OF ADV IS HOPE

WUDNT IT B SAD 2SAY MAYB NEX YR G WIL SEND SUMONE?

HOW RICH R U?? DO U MEASUR EVRTH IN DOLLRS & CENTS??

(ILUS OF MEN OTHR SIDE TRAKS & FUNERAL OF PROMINENT MAN)

YES, MANY PEO KNO HOW 2LIV, BUT HOW MANY KNO HOW TO DIE???

FAR TOO MANY PEO R RICH IN WORLDS GUDS, BUT POOR IN SP GUDS

WH/R OF FAR MOR VALUE

TH/MESAG WH/OURS 2DAY & EVRDAY IS OF "PRINCES & BEGGARS"

IT IS OF JS XP -A RICH MAN WHO IMPARTD THIS MESAG IN TH/HARDTS

U LIVS OF THOZ WHO WIL TRUST & BLIEV

(ILUS 9YR OLD GIRL & LETTR TO BABY JESUS)

WE CANT REACH HIM BY LETTR, BUT HE CAN REACH US IN OUR HARTS & LIV

THIS IS TH/ONLY WELTH U & I NEED FOR ALL OF LIFE

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - NOVEMBER 27, 1994

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

COMM. NEXT SUN.

Coll. Fred, Mary - /FAMILY, DIRTANA
FIVE ETC.

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-6

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

SERMON: "OF PRINCES AND BEGGARS: RICH MAN"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 12/2/79

YMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

SMALL FAMILY

FLORENCE

JACKIE

PAULINA MOTHER

"Of Princes And Beggars"
Rich Man

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-6

Text: Philippians 2:6; Golden Text for series: 2 Cor. 8:9

How rich are you? I am sure we could each answer in varied ways. In our present society wealth is presently equated in terms of gold or oil. These are the two most desired substances in use. For many of us our wealth consists in what can be done with a plastic card.

(Illustration of Ann and Santa Claus, candy cane, and "Charge it")

The young lady had learned her lessons well. Someone has said that what most Americans need these days is a little plastic surgery. Referring of course to the removal of some of the plastic credit cards we possess.

But is money and buying the only way to express richness or wealth? The Apostle Paul tells of it in two distinct ways which we will use for the next several Sundays. The first is found in 2 Corinthians 8:9. ~~xxxx~~ (Read this). Each of

these things will be a specific topic for each Sunday. This is our Golden Text for this Advent Season. Today of course we are speaking about, "Rich Man."

The second place Paul speaks of wealth is found in the portion of Scripture we used this morning. We will be using this Scripture each Sunday and adding a verse or two each week. Let us look at it again.

What Paul is saying is simply this: We should have the same attitude as a Christian as Jesus did in His life.

He then adds the dimensions Jesus had. First, he states that Jesus, being in the form of God, which means that He was God before He ever came to earth.

John tells us, "In the beginning was the Word." The "Word" of course refers to Jesus Christ. But this Jesus Christ, being in the form of God, walking on earth in a human form, the Incarnation, or God in the flesh if you will, "He thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Now what does this mean?

Well suppose someone gave you a ticket on the Irish Sweepstakes, or the Pennsylvania lottery and you heard that number you held was the winning ticket of the grand prize. What would you do? The normal reaction would be to faint or

collapse and when you were revived you would go to the place where you could collect and do just that. You would grasp it, hang on to it, (at least for a little while). This is what Paul was saying to these people in the language ~~the~~ they could understand. He was conveying to them that although Jesus Christ had this sudden windfall in His life, He didn't try to use it wrongly. He didn't ~~take it~~ make illegal use of it and use it in a way contrary to what God wanted from Him.

Compare this to the story of Adam and Eve. They had been tempted by Satan who told them that when they partook of the fruit of the tree ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ the midst of the garden, "Ye shall be like gods." So man fell because he couldn't handle the responsibility handed to him. But not so Jesus Christ, Paul goes on to say that because He didn't think it robbery to be equal with God, He was made in the likeness of men. Jesus explained this as John points out in his Gospel chapter 6, verse 38. Now if Jesus is God, and He is; and He came to earth as a human; ^{which} He did; then it would mean that exactly what Paul says is a real revelation to any and all who will take time to understand it. He left all of His riches to come to earth and be poor. Think of it. The one who was at the very first creation; who owns the cattle on a thousand hills; who controls the weather; who holds the destiny of all creation in His hand; This One came to earth and left all of that behind. ~~He laid aside, power, prestige and privilege and took~~ ~~them for~~ A very striking Christmas card was once published which told the story of a minister falling asleep in his study on Christmas morning. While he slept he had a very vivid dream. In this dream he found himself looking around ~~(illustration of)~~ his home on Christmas Day. He saw no little stockings hung by the fireplace, no Christmas tree or wreaths hung on the door and mantel. Nothing to remind him of Christmas at all. Then he walked out to the street and he looked around. There was no church with its spire pointing toward heaven and nothing to remind him of the joy of Christmas. Wearily he trudged back into the house and flopped into the chair in his study. But all of his books in his library had disappeared. He was roused by the ring of the door bell and it was someone

asking him to visit a poor dying mother. He hurried along the street with the young girl and was ushered into the house and the bedroom of the dying woman. As he sat down in the chair by the bed he said, "I have something here that will comfort you." He reached into his pocket and took out his Bible to look for a familiar promise. But to his dismay his Bible ended with Malachi. There was no Gospel, no New Testament. No hope. No salvation. And all he could do was bow his head and weep in bitter despair for her.

Two days later he conducted her funeral and as he stood by the grave there were no words of consolation he could give to anyone. No glorious resurrection, no joy of a risen Lord, only "Ashes to ashes, and dust to dust," and he realized that He had not come and again he wept bitter tears.

But suddenly he awoke from his dream and he heard his church choir practicing for the Sunday Service. "O come all ye faithful," rang out loud and clear. "O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord." He knew then that it was only a bad dream.

Wouldn't it be tragic if all we could do this first Sunday of this Advent season ~~is~~ is hope? Wouldn't it make us sad to say, "Maybe God will send someone next year?"

How rich are you? Do you measure everything in dollars and cents?

Many people are like the two men from the other side of the tracks who attended the funeral of a prominent person in their town: (Illustration of this)

Yes, many people really know how to live, but how many of them know how to die? Too many people are rich in this world's goods, but poor in the spiritual goods which are of more value.

The message which is our today and everyday of life is "Of Princes And Beggars." It is of "A Rich Man," Jesus Christ who imparted this message in the hearts and lives of those who will trust and believe.

(Illustration of 9 year old girl and letter to Baby Jesus).

We cannot reach Him by letter, but we can have Him reach us in our hearts and only lives. This is the wealth you and I need for all of life.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Second Sunday in Advent December 9, 1979

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Karen Pfabe and Lori Zavacky - Acolytes

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Beautiful Savior" Young
*Processional Hymn No. 100 "O How shall I receive Thee"
*Call to Worship "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Pg. 88

*Exhortation
*Confession - (In Unison) "Almighty and Eternal God, who
didst create light and life, even as we come to you
we must hide ourselves from thee in shame. Our thoughts,
words, and deeds are dark shadows upon us. Like the
men of old, we have strayed from thy ways, losing sight
of thy light. Thou who came as light into our dark
world, we have failed in times past to perceive thee.
We ask therefore, that we may come to your light in
true faith and repentance, through Jesus the Light. Amen."

*Kyrrie

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

*Praise

*Pastor: O Lord Open our lips

*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise

*Doxology

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Who's Who in the Pew

Announcements

Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests

Solo: "Surely Goodness and Mercy" John Peterson
Sung by Lloyd Link

Call to Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit

Pastor: Let us Pray

Prayer and Prayer Response

Offering

Offertory "Evan"

Young

Anthem: "Caroling, Caroling" Burt Chancel Choir
Scripture: Philippians 2:5-7
Sermon: "Of Princes and Beggars"
Poor Man

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 99 "Rejoice, rejoice, believers"

*Benediction

*Choral Response "Rejoice, Rejoice"

*Postlude

Morris

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Gorge Pflugh in memory of Jean's Sister
Elfreda Jerman.

Serving as Ushers today are: *Wally Feder, John Snow,
Steve Vargo and Gottlob Kradel

Deacon and Mrs. William Thompson will greet the
Congregation and Visitors at the door today.
Nursery will be provided today by Paul Fenc and
Amy Burns.

Hospitalized: Mr. Nick Nohach, Mrs. Judy Shearer

> Our deepest Sympathy to Mrs. Harold Sandbach and her
Family in the passing of Mr. Harold Sandbach this week.
> Our sincere Sympathy to Mrs. John Custead, Family and
Friends in the passing of John Custead this week.
> Today - 3:00 - Sunday School practice for the Family
Christmas Program will be this afternoon at 3:00.
PLEASE NOTICE THAT THE DATE OF THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THE 23rd INSTEAD OF 16th,
BECAUSE THE COSTUMES ARE NOT AVAILABLE ON THE DAY PLANNED
The Poinsetta chart was passed around last week if you
would like a poinsetta for the Altar - the price is
\$5.00 - please sign up in the office.
Basketball practice is in full swing and they will be
able to practice a lot since we have the new building.
Tonight - 6:30-8:30 - Senior High Grades (Grades 9-12)
Tues. - 7:00 - Basketball and Volleyball with Bill Ohl.
Mrs. Sandbach would like to thank the Congregation
for the cards, flowers and for the dinner that was
put on for them after the funeral.
23 Holy Communion will be 11:00 Pew ; 24 11:00 P.M. (Pew)

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - DECEMBER 4, 1994

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

CHRISTMAS BASKET COLLECTION
(MOTHER & TWINS - OTHERS)
COMMUNION THIS MORNING

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-7
SERMON: "OF PRINCES AND BEGGARS: POOR MAN"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER, 12/9/79

THE LORD'S SUPPER
*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
(*STILUDE

Mrs. RAREY
TRACEY

To All Counselors and Advisors:

October 19, 1979

We need people who would be willing to teach a Nurture Group in their Church or Home after the Crusade Services have ended at the Butler Intermediate High School. We encourage each church to have at least one Nurture Group, and you will be notified as to the date and time this will be held. There will be a training class on how to conduct a Nurture Group, and you We pray that you will be interested in teaching one of these classes and also that you will take time to pray about this matter. Please sign this form and return it to: Reverend Ralph Link, Follow-Up-Chairman. You may contact Reverend Link each evening before or after the Crusade Service.

I would be interested in teaching a Nurture Group:

Signed _____

"Of Princes And Beggars" - Poor Man
Scrip: Phil ~~2:7~~ 2:5-7; Text: Phil 2:7; 2 Cor 8:9

(Illus Race Turtle & Rabbit)

Race not alway 2 swift & tru, but underly moral
lowly turt knu wat cud do & did inspit handicap
Altho only story, lesns 2B lerned comp 2 G thru Js
Rom 2 Cor 8:9

P elaborate Phil 2:7=No Reputation, long B4 cum on
scene Isa 53:2b-3=nothing in eyes of world
Gr word REPUTATION=literal, empty lik containr

P mean Js thro off Divinty, complete human

This ment no glory conect kindnes, luv

No lik sum peop mus hav limelite=Ex Rev. Harshu
Js no tel Scribe get this dwn & tel Harrisburg

Mor in vs 8=Humb1 self & this seperat from ordnar

How many peop want 2B humbl? Want 2B servant?

Tom Massart & desirs 2B winners, no losers, win, win

No sportship etc

TV & footbal playrs, grin, 1 finger #1

Not fashonbl 2B #2, or loser, also ran

contrast with Js & C diff

This philosophy root nation probs US mus B big/bes

" ment disregard conserv & wise use things

" caus rathr dim, hopeles situation

G say 2 Chron 7:14=& this tak humilty, it mean get
on knees & admit sot own glory, power

It mean lk 2 G 4 Power, wisdom & His glory

Lk peop Is & C nevr listn til brot 2 knees, & 2late

Why mank nevr lern this lesson?

anser=wen hav plenty, no worry bout shortag etc

But hard time cum & apreiciate wat had, too late

(Illus Dr. Victor Frank, concentrat camp & lite)

ais wat G did thru Js Xp

world throes anguish, defeat & peop Is hoples

lost own self-indulg & poor

G want 2lift 2self & restor lost relatship cum in2
world

Cam wear diapers, evil smel stabl; cam herald brite

lite 2sheps; strang star 2 Wise Men

We think story & how nice, but had price tag & this

Js gav up all 2 liv as human

(Illus "Madhouse"=No private Residence)

This wat Xmas seasn 4mos peop=Madhous

4 Js scene deepest humil & this wat B poor 4us is

Lets lk livs & C if find sum sens humilty which

draw us closr this season 2 Him & then mite truly

no Him as He really is

SCRIP: PHIL 2:5-7; SERM: "OF PRINCES & BEGGERS: POOR MAN"

(ILUS OF RACE TWEEN TURTLE & HARE)

I SUR U ALWAYS THOT MORAL THIS STORY IS RACE ALWAY B 2SWIFT
THIS TRU

BUT I SUBMIT, THER UNDRLY MORAL WH/WE WUD DO WEL 2LERN
THAT TURTLE KNU CRRBILTYS & MADE NO APDLGYS 4WAT CUDNT DO
ALL THIS HE CONTENT 2USEWAT GIVN 2HIM 2BEST OF ABILITY
HE WAS POOR WEN CONSIDR ALONGSID RABIT

BUT WILING 2GIV HIS BEST IN SPIKE OF HANDICAP
ONLY STORY, BUT I BLIEV TH/LESSNS 2B LERND FR/IT CANB CP 2WAT GOD
DID THRU LIF/MINSTRY OF JS XP
2 COR 8:9=READ

THO RICH, YET 4UR SAKES HE BCAM POOR
VS 7A=ELAB ON 2 COR 8:9=NO REPUTATIN
ISA 53:2B=READ THIS

IN OTHR WORDS=HE WAS NOTHING IN TH/EYES OF TH/WORLD
GRK=REPUTATION=TO EMPTY - LIK A CONTAINER
P'S REASNING=THRO OFF BIVINTY, MAK SELF COMPL HUMN SO CUD FEEL/
TOUCH/SENSE/TASTE WAT IT LIK 2B COMPLETELY HUMAN
THIS MENT NO GLORY CONECT W/KINDNES & DEEDS OF LUV

(ILUS FORMR MINSTR SERV VACATIN, NOTIFY NEWSPAPRS, RADIO, ETC)
JS NEVR TUK SCRIB ASID & SAY=U MAK SUR U RECORD WAT C & HEAR &
B SURE NEWS PASSD ON TO NEXT TOWN/VILLAGE

VS 7=EMPTIED SELF, BCAM SERV, MADE IN LINES OF MEN,
WAT DID HE DO???

VS 8B=HYMBLED SELF
HOW MANY PEO WANT 2B HUMBL??

(ILUS RICHARD DeHAAN & JESUS AS AN EXAMPLE OF HUMILITY)

WAT IS TH/SENS OF HUMILTY WE C IN OUR SOCIETY 2DAY?

IN BUSNES, SPORTS, SKUL TH/IDEA IS ADVANCD OF B A WINNR
THIS GUD, BUT ALSO BAD BCUZ NO ONE IS TEACH HOW 2B A LOSR &
THAT R MOR LOSRS THAN WINNRS

HOW OFT DO WE C THOZ ON TOP KNO HOW 2LOSE GRACIOUSLY???

(ILUS SIR WALTER SCOTT & ANONYMUS LETTR BOUT BYRON)

THATS EXAMPL 4ALL OF US

SCOTT WAS XPIAN & PROB TUK JS AS EXAMPL

BUT MUS LK INSID WAT G DID THRU JS & C MEAN & PURP 4HIS COMING
ISR, PEO OF G NEVR LISTN UNTIL BROT 2KNEES & EVN THEN IT 2LATE
WHY MUS MANK NEVR LERN TIL 2LATE??

ANSR IS WEN HAV 2MUCH & PLENTY NO THINK POSIB FAL ON HARD TIME
WEN HARD TIMES CUM, ONLY THEN HAV APRECIATIN 4THOZ THINGS ONCE

(ILUS VICTR FRANKL & LITE IN FARMHOUS)

THIS WAT G DID THRU JS XP - TH/WORL STUD IN THROES ANGUISH/DEFEAT
PEO ISR HOPLESLY LOS IN THER OWN SELF-INDULGENC & WER AS POOR
AS CUDB

G WANT 2LIFT THEM & ALL MANK 2SELF & RESTOR LOS RELATSHIP, CAME

INTO TH/WORL

BUT HE CAM WERING DIAPERS IN EVIL SMELLING STABLE

HE CAM HERALDED BY BRITE LITE 2SHEPS

HE CAM USHERING GRP WISE MEN 2BETH BY A STRANGE STAR

ALL THIS HAD PRICE TAG ON IT - IT NICE STORY, BUT TRUTH IS JS

GAV UP EVRTH 2LIV & WALK AMONG MANK

IT COST HIS RICHES IN GLORY, HIS THRON, HIS KINGLY CROWN, HIS LF-
BLUD

(ILUS CLERK & SAY "IT'S A MADHOUS")

THIS WAT XMAS SEAN IS 4MANY PEO - 4 JS IT WAS SCEN HUMB HUMILTY

4H JS WAT BEING POOR FOR US MEANS

LET US LK OUR LIVS THIS SEASN & C IF CAN FIND SUM SENS HUMILTY
WH/WIL DRAW US CLOSR 2HIM

"Of Princes And Beggars"

Poor Man

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-7

Text: Philippians 2:7; Golden Text: 2 Corinthians 8:9

The race was about ready to begin. The spectators lined both sides of the road and awaited the starting gun. The two contestants were standing on the sidelines a marked contrast in personalities. The champion was looking with disdain in the direction of the challenger. His inner feelings were evident from his outer actions. One could tell that he felt ~~xxxxxxxx~~ this race was merely a formality for him and one which was completely unnecessary. He stood ~~with~~ with his friends flexing his leg muscles not only to limber them, but to send a shiver of fear over his opponent.

But if the challenger was disturbed by any of this he gave no outward sign. Anyone looking at him could see the distinct differences between the two racers. And seeing the marked differences one had to feel a sense of pity for the contest about to be held. This was not going to be a race, it was going to be a mockery. But there he stood with his spindly little legs ready to accept the challenge.

At last they lined up on the starting line and the official raised his starting pistol, fired, and they were off. At least, the champion was off. He was down the road and out of sight within seconds and the challenger was setting what appeared to be a slow methodical pace as though he didn't wish to tire himself for the stretch ahead. Time slipped by and the spectators began to become anxious for they should have made the circuit and appeared coming toward the finish line by now. As the seconds ticked by everyone became rather restless. What ~~could~~ could have been a very fast race by the champion followed by a doubtful finish by the challenger gave evidence of a mystery.

But at last one of them appeared in view. As he approached the surprise was that it was the challenger in the lead, and the champion ~~was~~ was not even in sight. The challenger was keeping the same methodical pace as he moved toward the finish line. But then the champion appeared on the horizon and was racing at top speed. But even though he should have won by several lengths, he finished second to the challenger.

Surely something must have gone wrong that the race ended this way. And upon further investigation it was discovered that the champion, confident of certain victory, took advantage of his tremendous lead to have a nap by the roadside. This enabled the challenger to pass him and win the race.

Now of course you may have identified this as the famous race between the turtle and the rabbit.

I am sure that you have always thought the moral of the story is ~~xxxxxxxx~~ that of the race not always being to the swift. And this is true. But I submit to you that there is an underlying moral which we would do well to learn. The lowly turtle knew his capabilities and made no apologies for what he could not do. But above this he was content to use that which was given to him to the best of his ability. He was poor when considered alongside the rabbit. But he was willing to give his best in spite of his handicap. Although this is only a story I believe the lessons to be learned from it can be compared to what God did through the life ~~and~~ ministry of Jesus Christ.

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 8:9, "Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor." And in our Scripture he elaborates on this poriness in the 7th verse. First he says, "But made Himself of no reputation." Long before He ever appeared on the scene the prophet Isaiah said, "He hath no form or comlieness and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him." In other words He was nothing in the eyes of the world. The Greek word here which Paul uses and the King James translates, "Reputation" literally means "To Empty." It is a word expressing the thought of making empty like a container. Paul's reasoning behind this had to do with His throwing off His Divinity; making Himself completely human so He could feel, and touch, and taste what it was like to be a complete human.

This meant there was no glory connected with His acts of kindness and love. He was not like some who when they do something must let everyone know that it has been done. I know of a minister who was the former pastor of the two congregations we served in central Pennsylvania, who when he was invited back during our vacation notified all of the newspapers in and out of the county of his return. This assured him of more of a crowd. Jesus never took one of the Scribes aside and said, "Now you make sure you record what you see and hear and be sure that this news is passed on to the next town.

But there is more to this and we find it recorded in the beginning of the 8th verse. He not only "Made Himself of no reputation," emptied Himself, but He, "Took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself." This is what separates Jesus from ordinary humanity. How many people really want to be humble? How many people really want to stoop to performing the duties of a servant? Tom Massart and I were discussing sports this past week and he remarked how the desire to be ^{the} winner has superceded all else. There is no longer talk of good sportsmanship, fair play, learning to be a good loser. It is win at any cost. Look at the football games on television. The two teams may be at the bottom of the heap and when the camera pans on the players of the team which is winning,

what do you see? You will see those players grinning into the camera and holding up one finger which indicates that they are number one. It is no longer fashionable to be number two, or an also-ran. It must be number one or you are a loser. Contrast this with Jesus and you will see the vast difference in philosophies.

This must win at any cost theory is presently at the root of our nation's ills. For more years than anyone wishes to remember the United States has sought to have the biggest and best of everything. This has meant the disregard for conserving and using wisely. As a result, we find ourselves locked into what seem to be hopeless situations. But God has said that if His people which are called by His Name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. But it takes humility. It takes getting down on our knees and admitting that we have sought our own glory, our own power and we have neglected the power available from God, as well as doing things for His glory.

We look at the history of the people of Israel and we see that they never listened until they were brought to their knees, and then it was too late. Why must mankind never learn these lessons? The answer of course is that when you have plenty you do not think of the possibility of falling on hard times. But when those hard times come, then you begin to have an appreciation for those things which you once had.

(Illustration of Dr. Victor Frankl & concentration camp, light in farmhouse)
This is what God did through Jesus Christ. The world stood in the throes of anguish and defeat. The people of Israel were hopelessly lost in their own self-indulgence. They were as poor as could be. God wanting to lift them to Himself and to make it possible to restore the lost relationship, came into the world. But He came wearing diapers in an evil smelling stable. He came heralded by a bright light to the shepherds. He came ~~ushered~~ ushering a group of Wise Men to Bethlehem by a strange star.

All of this had a price tag on it. We think of the story and how nice it sounds, but the reality of it is that Jesus gave up everything to live and walk among mankind. It cost Him His riches in glory, His throne, His kingly reign

(Illustration of clerk saying, "It's a madhouse" and customer resents it)

This is what the Christmas season is for most people, "A mad house." But for Jesus it was a scene of the humblest humility. This is what His being poor for us means. Let us look to our lives and see if we can find some sense of humility which will draw us closer this season to Him. That we might truly know Him as He really ~~xxxxxx~~ is.

CONFIRMATION QUIZ

1. What is the "Bible?"
2. Name the two major divisions of the Bible.
3. Give the names of the Trinity.
4. What do we call a statement that sums up our basic beliefs?
5. Who was the man who is considered responsible for the start of the reformation?
6. What is the name of our denomination?
7. What do we mean by the word "Sacrament?"
8. Can you name the two Sacraments of the church?
9. What is the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion?
 - A. Try to give some background as to how it came about.
 - B. What does it do for us, and what is it's purpose?
10. We know that Confirmation is a follow-up of something that was done at an earlier time in our lives. Give the name of this action.
11. Identify the following with a brief discription:
 - Adam
 - Jesus
 - Evangelical and Reformed Church
 - Congregational Christian Church
 - The Ten Commandments
 - Confirmation
 - Tithing
 - Missionary or Missionaries
 - What happens in worship
 - Christian Martyrs

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
Third Sunday in Advent December 16, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Julie Vargo and Dianne Zavacky - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" Bach
*Processional Hymn No. 93 "Arise, the kingdom is at hand"
*Call to Worship "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Pg. 88
*Exhortation
*Confession - (In Unison) "Our Father, we are aware
that at this time of the year our lives seem at times
to be so void of meaning. We know the joy that should
be ours, but it is difficult to separate ourselves from
our sins which so easily beset us. Take from us the
thoughts of anger and hatred we may feel, and replace
them with love and concern for all of mankind. Let your
peace flow into our hearts and lives, and let us have
that light, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: O Lord Open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology
Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Who's Who in the P.
Announcements
Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests
Solo: "He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel Diantha Hawkes
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Trumpet March" Old Time Tune
Anthem "Sing We Noel" Chancel Choir

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-8
Sermon: "Of Princes and Beggars"
Beggars Man

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 108 "O little town of Bethlehem"

*Benediction

*Choral Response "Rejoice, Rejoice"

*Postlude Morris

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed
by Mr. Arthur Snyder in memory of his "Father"
Serving as Ushers today are *Robbie Vinroe, Bob Dellen,
Randy Dellen and Brian Kennedy.

Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Biefendorfer will be at the door today.

> Hospitalized: Nick Nohach, Judy Shearer, Walter Hollefreuer.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Mary Ellen Sanko,
and Tina Groves.

Paul Campbell and Don Kingsley will be visiting the
Hospital this week.

> Poinsetta's - (last chance) to order will be soon -

Should you want one please let Bea know in the office.

No one has signed up for flowers in January - If you

would like to have the flowers for a certain Sunday

in January please let Bea know for sign up on the

new chart in the Narthex as you leave.

Tonight Youth Fellowship: 8:30 - 8:30 - Senior High

Grades 9-12

Monday - 7:00 - Finance Committee meeting - anyone

interested in sitting in on any meeting is encouraged

to do so.

Wed. - 7-8 = Jr. High Youth (Grades 6,7,8)

> PLEASE NOTICE THAT THE DATE OF THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS

PROGRAM HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THE 23rd INSTEAD OF

TODAY - DUE TO THE COSTUMES NOT BEING AVAILABLE TODAY.

> PRACTICE TODAY - 3:00-5:00 P.M. - all Church School

Youth.

> Next Sunday - Holy Communion in the Pew

Monday Eve. (Christmas Eve) - Holy Communion in the

Pew (Service of Candle light - Carols and etc.)

at 11:00 P.M.

Each Tuesday - Basketball and Volleyball with Bill Ohl.

Basketball practice - see Tom Massart, Don Wogan,

Robert Davis or Rob Sybert.

HAVE
PUBLISHED
CITY
CAN
LEAVE FOR
24TH

"Of Princes And Beggars" Beggar Man
 Scrip: Phil 2:5-8; Texts: Phil 2:8b, 2 Cor 8:9
 (Illus boy and 2 nickles, lose 1 and that G's)
 This norm react, surpris if otherwis & sho Choices
 sed B4 & say agin lif ful them:
 Examp: grass/golf, fish; wash clothes/bridge, lunch etc
 do wat mos plesurbl & this normal, but Js diff
 2 Cor 8:9=thru poverty; Phil 2:8b=poverty case
 chose 2lowr self & this mak lif unBlievbl & unacpt
 so many peop then & now
 HE CHOSE 2do this, & no tak gud choic; think this:
 Hometown=mother, bros, sis=no recogniz, say U R if do
 Disfavor authorities: No took aside & sed, let me do
 this if promis no do Sabbath; insted told person
 who luv is doing G's will
 Arrest & trial: No sed word & no stop execution &
 cud hav done so; WHY
 (Illus "If Xp is not born, Xmas is nothing")
 Lk 2:11=Xp=Christos Gr, ANOINTED: Hamasheah=Heb, Mess
 Anointed of G & Deliverer of God
 Angel sed=THE LORD=Kurios Gr; Adonai Heb: 3 things
 1st Divinity of Js
 2nd Master lik 1 in charg servants, but in luv
 3rd Husband as Husb of Bride=Church, & this peop luv
 Him and follo Him
 He husband as 1 who wil 2giv all 4her & P sed
 obed un2 deth; fear, terror no deter=Beggar man
 Beggars=necessary evil society & tolerate, looked aft
 Crucifix=embaras frends, reltivs & sho complet hum-
 ility of Js
 This choic made 4 mankind & not lik U & I wud do
 We end result this=lik worl 2day & C reject & refus
 p giv 2 Xpanty: nothr "Religion": Jew no acapt
 Js Xp met same refusal, rejection as wen born, liv
 (Illus "You can hav my room," Wally & play)
 This way Xmas story shud end
 " " most our stories end 2day, but unfortunate
 Xmas story no happy end
 nor did erthly lif born stabl end happy
 But from unhappy birth, deth ther happy end 4 all
 who no sneer, scoff, reject
 4 all who Bliev acapt as Savior, ther etern 2 liv
 with Him
 This Xmas season may U & I B abl 2 say as boy:
 YOU CAN HAVE MY ROOM"

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - DECEMBER 11, 1994

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

CHRISTMAS BASKET COLLECTION
 (mother & twins, money/food or both)

Advent Wreath Lighting - 3rd SUNDAY ADVENT

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

SERMON: "OF PRINCES AND BEGGARS: BEGGAR MAN"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER, 12/16/79

*HYMN
 *BENEDICTION
 *POSTLUDE

RAMEY - KIT HOS

PAISCILLA - HME

JACKIE -

BILL

KATIE

CAHL

SCRIP: PHIL 2:5-8; SERM: "OF PRINCES & BEGGERS: BEGGR MAN"
 (ILUS BOY & TWO NICKLES)
 REACTIN WUD EXPEC FR/BOY SUCH AS THIS
 WUDB SURPRIS IF GIV UP NICKL TO BUY CANDY
 LIF MADE UP CHOICES, ALWAYS CHOICES WE MUS MAK
 TH OF SUM CHOICES CUD MAK=GRASS-FISHING; HUNTING, BALLGAME
 WH/CHOICE U MAK?
 WOMEN=DOING LAUNDRY-SHOPPING, LUNCH W/FRIENDS?? WH/CHOIC??
 PROB MOS WUD MAK CHOIC 4PLEASURBL THING & THIS NORMAL
 IN LIF JS, THIS NOT TH/CASE AS P PT OUT 2 FOR 8:9 - READ
 THIS SHOWS HE DID SUMTH 4US
 VS 8=POOR - POVERTY CASE, CHOS LOWR SELF COMPLETELY
 JS CHOS 2DO THAT WH/MAKS HIS LIF SO UNBLIEVBL
 HE DIDNT CHOOZ THAT WH/NORMAL, LETS LK AT EXAMPLS:
 BGAN MINSTRY HOMETWN: PR INTRUPT 2SAY MOTH/BROS OUTSIDE
 THEY CUM TAK AWAY, THOT INSAN
 JS ANSR: WHO MY BROS, MOTH? ANYONE DO G'S WIL -CUD GON QUIETLY,
 BUT MADE OTHR CHOIC
 DISFAVOR W/AUTHOR TYS: HEAL ON SAB, NO WASH HANDS
 JS ANSR: LASH OUT, TOL RELIG ACTIVTYS NUTH B4 GOD: PERSON TRULY
 LUV GOD, & IS SPIRITUL SHOWS LUV 4BROS
 AREST/TRIAL: PILAT ASK - ASK IF KING? SAY SUMTH & B RELEAS
 JS ANSR: SILENC, "OPN NOT HIS MOUTH, & WAS EXECUTED * WHT???"
 (ILUS "IF CHRIST IS NOT BORN, XMAS IS NOTHING")
 READ LUKE 2:11

VS 8=OBED UNTO DETH, DETH ON CROSS
 BEGGERS AS NECES EVIL & WER LOCKD AFTR 2SUM DEGREE
 DETH JS SUFFR REDUC HIM 2LEVL OF BEGGR
 ANYONE EXCUTED WAS LOWR THAN LOW-IT WAS DISGRACE
 JS WILLING FUEEL G'S PLAN 4MANK, THIS HIS CHOIC
 HE CHOSE KNO DISGRAC, SHAME THIS WUD BRING
 AT WAS END RESULT OF THIS FREE-CHOIC OF JS?
 ONLY NEED LK AT WORL AROUND US 2DAY - MAJOR PEO NO WANT XPIANTY
 THOZ WHO STIL CALLD "G'S PEOP" REFUS ACPT JS AS MESIAH
 TH/REJECTIN & REFUSAL 2DAY IS SAM AS WEN JA 1ST CAM 2ERTH
 (ILUS OF WALLY, & "U CAN HAV MY ROOM")
 THIS WAY XMAS STORY SHUD END - HAPPY ENDING

UNFORTUNATLY XMAS STORY DUZNT HAV HAPY END, NOR DID EARTHLY LIF
 OF JS

FR/HIS UNHAPY BIRTH IN STABL, & THAT UNHAPY DETH THER IS A
 HAPY ENDING 4THOZ WHO SNEER & SCOFF & REJEC HIM
 4ALL THOZ WHO BLIEV IN HIM & KNO HIM AS THER L & SAV THER IS AN
 ETRNTY W/HIM THIS XMAS MAY EA OF US B ABL 2SAY LK THAT YNG BOY
 IN TH/STORY "YOU CAN HAVE MY ROOM, LORD JESUS"
 THERE IS ROOM IN MY HEART FOR THEE

ANGEL SED=XP IN GRK CHRISTOS - MEANS ANOINTED
 HEBREW=HAMASHEAH - MESSIAH
 TH'S SET HIM APART AS TH/ANOINTD ONE & DELIVERER OF GOD
 AN SED-LORD IN GRK KURIOS - ADONAI IN HEBREW
 3MEANINGS = 1 - DIVINITY - HE SET APART FR/ALL OTHR BABIES BORN
 2 - MASTER - LK MASTR SERVS ONLY IN LUVING WAY
 3 - HUSBAND - HUSBAND OF BRIDE, BUT AS SERVANT
 JS WAS DIVINE HUSBAND, BRIDE IS CH, AS SERV WHO IS HUSBAND
 JS AS DIVIN HUSBAND WIL GIV ALL 4BRIDE- CHURCH-HIS PEOPLE

"Of Princes And Beggars"
Beggar Man

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-8

Texts: 2 Corinthians 8:9; Philippians 2:8b

(Illustration of boy and two nickles)

This is the reaction we would expect from a little boy such as this. We would be surprised if he had given up the nickle for buying candy. But this example shows us once again that life is filled with choices. We have said it before and we will repeat it again and again, we have choices which we must make.

~~Suppose~~ You men, suppose you had a choice between cutting the grass or going fishing, or golfing, or to a ballgame. Which choice would you make? You ladies suppose you had a choice between doing the washing and going shopping, or to a luncheon with friends, or meeting some lady friends for bridge or conversation. What choice would you make? I am sure that most of us would opt for the choice which was the most pleasurable. This is the normal thing to do.

But as we once again direct our thinking to the coming of Jesus Christ into the world we see that this type of choosing was not what took place in His life. Paul points out in 2 Corinthians 8:9, (Read). And this morning we are looking at the part which states, "That ye thought His poverty." This shows us that He did something which was going to bring forth results for "Ye", or for us; for people.

But once again we need to look at what Paul also shared in this respect with the people in the church at Philippi. He tells us, "He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." We spoke of Jesus being poor. In fact, we said He was the poorest of the poor. But here we see that He was not only poor, but He was a poverty case. He chose to lower Himself even further. This is what makes His life and ministry so unbelievable and unacceptable to so many people not only during His lifetime, but since. He chose to do this. Instead of taking the good choice which is the normal thing to do, He chose to ~~xxx~~ make what the world considers the bad choice. Let us look at this for a moment. Think of His life and what transpired in it. First He began His public ministry near His hometown. While He was preaching His

preaching was interrupted by someone informing Him that His mother and brothers and sister were outside. They had come to haul Him away because they thought He was insane. What did He do? He asked them who His mother and brothers were, and then proceeded to tell them that anyone who did God's will was His brother and sister and mother. He could have chosen to go quietly with Mary and those brothers and sisters. But instead, He chose to take the other choice. When He began to fall in disfavor with the authorities He could have chosen to make a few deals with them. He could have called a few of them aside and said, "Look fellows, I have this thing of being able to heal people, why not let me continue to do so as long as I don't do it on the Sabbath? I promise that we can make this a good thing and give this town a good name and in return you can make a few bucks on it too." We know He didn't do that. Instead, He lashed out at them for being the hypocrites they were. He told them in no uncertain terms that all of their religious activities were nothing before God. He tried to set apart to them that the person who was truly spiritual was the one who tried to love others and show this love in so many ways.

What happened when He was arrested? Did He try to get the best lawyer around to plead His case or to make a plea bargain? Pilate asked Him several times if He was the King they said He was. He asked Him to say something in His own behalf and He could be released. But He chose instead as one Gospel writer tells, us, "But He opened not His mouth." And so He ~~was~~ was delivered for execution. Even in His execution He could have used His powers to put a stop to it, but He didn't and we must ask of all of these things "WHY?" A man named W. Y. Fullerton writing about this once said, (Illustration of, "If Christ is not born, Christmas is nothing etc").

Let us look at this particular verse and see what is being said. Luke 2:11. (Read this). The angel said He was "Christ" which in Greek is "Christos" and means "Anointed." In Hebrew it is "Hamasheah" which means "Messiah." This sets Him apart as the "Anointed One" and "Deliverer" of God. But the angel also added, "The Lord." The word is "Kurios" in Greek and "Adonai" in Hebrew. It

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^ two basic and important meanings. Actually, there are three. The first is that
Divinity. This sets Jesus apart from all other human babies born on that
day. The second meaning is that of "Master" much like one who is the Master of
servants, but in the most common ~~xxx~~ and loving way. Not as one who rules in
hatred and anger, but as one who rules in love.

The third meaning is that of "Husband." This takes on the role of the Husband
of a bride, but also as a servant role. So analyzing this one aspect of it
we see Jesus as ^{DIVINE} the Husband, the Bridegroom, and of course we can then identify
His Bride which is the Church. The Church of course is His people who love Him
and follow Him. We see Him as the husband who is a servant. As one who cares
for His bride and is willing to give His very all for her. This then is the
most important aspect of the life of Jesus Christ. Paul says, "He became obed-
ient unto death," meaning of course that even the fear of death, the terror it
must have held for Him; all of this did not deter Him from doing what God wanted
Him to do. He "became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." This
in essence reduced Him to the level of a "Beggar Man."

Beggars in the time of Jesus and even before, were looked upon as a necessary
evil in society. They were usually people who had no other recourseⁿ than to sit
by the wayside and ask for public help. They were not treated too unfairly,
but they were not looked up to and respected either. In OT times they were left
some grain in the fields on which to subsist. So they were looked after to a
certain degree. But it was the death which Jesus suffered and endured which
reduced Him to this level. Anyone, especially a Jew who was crucified was the
lowest of the low. It was a disgrace and source of embarrassment for the friend
and relatives of someone who was executed in this manner. This is the complete
humility which Jesus was willing to endure to fulfill God's plan for mankind.
This is the choice He made and it certainly is not the choice the average person
would be willing to make is it. All of this was done with His choosing to do
so.

And what is and has been the end result of this free-choice of Jesus Christ?

We only need look at the world around us today and we can answer that very read-
 quote
 y. The majority of the world rejects this as just another "Religion", unquote
 Those who still call themselves "God's chosen people" refuse to accept that the
 Messiah came in the person of Jesus Christ. The rejection and refusal that
 Jesus Christ is met with today is exactly the same as it was when He first came
 to earth.

(Illustration of Wally and "You can have my room")

This is the way the Christmas story should end. This is the way we have most of our modern day stories end, with a happy ending. But unfortunately, the Christmas story does not have a happy ending, nor did the earthly life of that one born in that stable end happily. But from that unhappy birth, and that unhappy death there is a happy ending for any and all who will not sneer and scoff and reject Him. For all those that believe in Him and know Him as their personal Lord and Saviour, there is eternity to live with Him.

"This Christmas season may you and I be able to say as that young boy did,
"You can have my room."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Fourth Sunday in Advent December 23, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Julie Vargo and Dianne Zavacky - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Noel" D'Aquin
*Processional Hymn No. 112 "O Come All Ye Faithful"
(On Stanza 3, the Congregation will sing melody,
the Choir will sing descant).
*Ascription - PAUL
*Call to Worship "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Pg. 88
*Exhortation - Page 32 - PAUL
*Confession - Page 32 - ME
*Assurance of Pardon - PAUL
Lighting of Advent Wreath
Who's Who In the Pew } ME
Announcements
Anthems: Chancel Choir
"Calypso Christmas" Sleeth
"Shout The Glad Tidings" Stanton
"Noel We Sing" D'Aquin
Offering }
Offertory } BETH "Ave Maria" Bach
Solo: Cyndie Sybert)
Anthems: Chancel Choir
"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" Wilson
"Lullabye Of The Shepherds" Wetzler
The Call to Communion - Page 33 - PAUL
*Eucharistic Prayer - Institution - Agnus Dei - ME
Distribution of Bread } ME GIVE PAUL TRANS
Distribution of Cup } ME GIVE PAUL TRANS
*Prayer of Thanksgiving - PAUL
*Doxology
Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11
Sermon: "Of Princes and Beggars"
Rich Men
*Hymn No. 102 "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

*Benediction
*Choral Response "Rejoice, Rejoice" Pg. 88
*Postlude Morris
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Poinsetta's on the Altar and Chancel can
be taken if you do not plan to attend the Service
tomorrow evening (special service of candlelight and
communion and carols). We would appreciate it if you
would leave them if you can.
The Deacons and Ellers will serve Communion as well as
Serve as Ushers today.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Patty Wogan,
Debra Johnston, and Ellen Master.
Deacon and Mrs. Bruce McBride will greet the Congregation
and visitors at the door this morning.
Attendance on Dec. 9 was 190 and on 18 was 173.
Monday Evening - 11:00 P.M. (Holy Communion - Candle-
light Service.
Hospitalized: Mr. Nick Nohach, Mr. Robert Tait,
Roger Ferres. Mrs. Eleanor McWilliams - Grove City
Tonight - 7:00 - Family Christmas Program. Ladies if
you offered to bake cookies - don't forget them.
Cookies and coffee will be served afterward in
Rehoboth Hall. I heard Santa Claus is going to be
here.
We wish to thank The ARC Class for putting up the Manger
Scene. Our thanks to Rob Sybert's Class for putting
up the Christmas tree in the Rehoboth Hall. The ladies
from the Women's Fellowship put up the Chrismon Tree.
+ + + + +
Christmas proclaims in words and in the incarnate Word.
Jesus Christ, that God "desires all men (all people) to
be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."
To this end God send His own Son, "the man Christ
Jesus," to be the Ransom, the one Mediator between
God and mankind. Today we come with joyful hearts to
worship this Mediator in a manger.

"Of Princes And Beggars" Rich Men
Scrip: Phil 2:5-11; Texts: Phil 2:9-11; 2 Cor 8:9

(ILLUS Depressed caus tis season 2B jolly)
Rt now, suntim 2day many peophav secur everthing
need 2 celebrat Xmas, & sort weariness, despair Bgin
set in & jok as tis season 2B jolly Bcum realty
ay peop lk roun & no C reason 4 happiness
lik young mothr buy toy 4 child:
(Illus "isn't toy complicated? Prep 4 2days world)
Isn't this much lik our worl 2day?
Can C much wat need 2B dun, shud B dun, But no hap
Reason=no mattr wat solu brot 2bear stager probs
fac mank, sum1 going 2lose power, wealth, or both
& so rich get richr & poor, poorer
But is this so? Wat determ welth? Or, wat determ
poverty?
P had uniq way explain as C in 2 Cor 8:9 READ
He try expl paradox which unexplainable
Furthr elab in Phil: Sed Js thru off welth, Bcam
Poor, drop level poverty, beggar
But P say=vs 9 READ=Think of it!
U can nam famous peop dwn thru centuries but not
1has name above ever name; this welth untol
Gr word 4 EXALT=over & abuv everthing else in crea
It means hav specil place no1 els can occupy
Now why so? vs 10=READ=All from angel dwn worship
Why agin? Vs 10end with semi-colon not period
a paus & continu next verse=READ vs 11
This wat G wants & wud lik mank 2 do
But kno that not so, many no wil 2confes wat G
set 4th in & thru Him
W is that?=Js Xp is Lord
Lead=1st Divinty, G in flesh, Immanuel
Master=1 lead & direct followers
Husband=1 2whom ch is Bride of
& wen C this underst wat P say & anser=2 Glory G
G 2B glorified, not man; Creator plac honor, not crea
All this hap 2do sumthin 4us=2 Cor 8:9=made Rich
This richnes 2liv etern with G insted B seperat
Ea yr seek rt gift 4friends etc
(Illus Santa, boy & giv sister measles)
Dubious present & othrs not really lasting gifts
Gif G giv no made human hand, & no bestow by man
Only thru faith receiv it & yrs, centrys & nevr
chang gift G
(Illus Js came 2take us 2heaven)
Do U kno & underst tru mesag Xmas? Or R Ulik many
stil caught up worldlines of season & serch 4 joy &
peac Xmas shud bring? But 2many serch wrong plac,
parties etc. It simpl, accept G's gift giv thru Js
& let Him hav control this life we liv

SCRIP: PHIL 2:5-11; SERM: "OF PRINCES & BEGGERS: RICH MEN"

(ILLUS OF MAN/WIFE DEPRES & "OF CORSE U DEPRES, TIS TH/SEAS 2B

FR/2DAY TIL THIS CUM SAT. THIS WIL HAPN MANY PEO

DESPAIR/SENS FUTILTY CREEP IN & NO REASON 4HAPNES XXX

(ILLUS MOTHER & TOY 4YNG CHILD)

IS THIS MUCH LIK OUR WORL 2DAY??

CAN C WAT MUSB DUN, SHUD DUN, BUT IT NO HAPN

REASON=SUMONE WIL LOS WELTH/POWER, OR BOTH

(EXAMPLES OF RAIS INT RATES - no chang welfare FOREIGN AID)

SEEMS AS THO RICH GET RICH & POOR GET POORER - BUT TRULY SO?

WAT DETERMINS WELTH? & WAT DETERMINS POVERTY?

P HAD UNIQUE WAY EXPL THIS - 2 COR 8:9 - READ

HE TRY EXPL PARADOX, WHICH IS CONTRADICTIN

JS REDUCE SELF 2LEVEL OF BEGGR

THAT THEME=OF PRINCS & BEGGERS: RICH MAN, POOR MAN, BEGGR MAN, NOT

THIEF, BUT END RESULT THIS IS - "RICH MEN"

VS 9=THINK OF IT! U CAN PICTUR & NAM WORL FAMUS PEO DWN THRU

CENTRYS, BUT NOT ONE HAS NAME ABUV THAT NAME - JESUS CHRIST

THAT IS WELTH UNTOLD

GRK=EXALT=MEANS OVR & ABUV EVRTH IN CREATIN, HAV SPECIL PLACE

ONE ELS CAN OCCUPY

WHY IS THIS SO??

VS 10=JS NAME SHUD EVOK WORSHIP - WHY???

FRTHIEST 2LOWEST - JS IS 2B WORSHIPD & NOTIC END VS 10=SEMI-C

A PHASE, THER IS MOR 2CUM IN NEXT VS

VS 11=THIS IS WAT G WANTS BUT IS IT A REALITY? NO! AND WHY???

2CONFES THAT JS XP IS LORD MEANS OBEDIENCE/ACCEPTANC OF HIM

WAT DIZ THIS LORDSHIP MEAN??

(ILLUS "MARVELUS PARADOX OF XMAS")

THIS IS WHAT TH/APOSTL PAUL WAS SAYING WEN WROT 2 COR 8:9=REAT

G LFT HIS GLORY, CAM 2ERTH BCAM POOR SO WE CUD BCUM RICH

WE SPEND TIME/MONEY 2GET GIFTS THAT JUS RITE

1. S SANTA ASK BOY WAT WIL GIV SISTR, GAV MEASLS LAS YR)

THIS DUBIUS PRESENT & MANY OTHRS WIL NOT LAST

BUT GIFT G GIVS US THRU JS XP CANT B FASHIND BY HUMN HANDS

NOR CAN IT B BSTOWD BY MAN

IT CAN ONLY BE ACCEPTED BY FAITH

(ILLUS "CHRISTMAS, ITS MEANING BY BILLY GRAHAM")

ANYONE CAN BCUM A RICH MAN REGARDLES OF WAT HE HAS IN TH/WORLD

GUDS

ANYONE CAN BCUM A RICH MAN THRU JS XP

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA - DECEMBER 18, 1994

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

TODAY - CONG DINNER, CHRISTMAS CAROLING, ETC
CHRISTMAS EVE - CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 7:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY, NEXT SUNDAY - 10:30 A.M CHILDRENS PROGRAM,
THEN CHURCH
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

*NEW YEARS EVE - 8:30
WATCH NEXT SERVICE
RENEW WEDDING VOWS/MARRIAGE ETC*

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

SERMON: "OF PRINCES AND BEGGARS: RICH MEN"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 12/23/79

*BEN

EDICTON

POSTLUDE

*MARY
MRS. RANEY*

"Of Princes And Beggars"
Rich Men

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

Texts: 2 Corinthians 8:9; Philippians 2:

(Illustration of "Of course you're depressed. 'Tis the season to be jolly")
Right about now or sometime today when many people have secured everything they think they need to celebrate Christmas, a sort of despair and weariness will begin to set in. The joke of being depressed because "Tis the season to be jolly" will become a reality for many. As many people look about them they cannot see any reason for happiness. They are like the ~~woman~~ young mother who was looking at a modern toy for her small child. She asked, "Isn't this toy awfully complicated for him?" The salesman said, "That madam, is an educational toy, designed to prepare the child for life in today's world. Any way he puts it together it is wrong."

And isn't this much of what our world is today? We can see much of what needs to be done, or what should be done, but it won't happen that way. The reason being that no matter what the solution to the staggering problems mankind faces today, someone is going to lose wealth, or power, or both. So as a result as we can understand all of this it seems like the rich get richer, and the poor get poorer. But is this truly so? What determines wealth? Or for that matter what determines poverty?

Paul had a unique way of explaining this as we have been sharing a verse for the past several weeks. In 2 Corinthians 8:9 he says, (read this). He is trying to explain something that seems like such a paradox that it is unexplainable. But he further elaborates on this in that portion of Scripture from Philippians which we have also been sharing for the last few weeks.

We said how Jesus threw off His wealth, His Riches and became Poor. But more than that He dropped to the level of Poverty, nothing more than a Beggar.

But because of this Paul says, "God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name." Think of it! You can ^{PICTURE} ~~think~~ in your mind, and name the world famous people down through the centuries, but not one of them has a name above every name. That is wealth untold.

The Greek word here for "EXALT" means to be over and above everything else in creation. It means to have a special place which ~~nothing~~ nothing or no one else can occupy.

Now why is this so? If we look at the next verse we see that the very name of Jesus should evoke worship and adoration starting with the angels in heaven ~~right~~ right on down to the lowliest part of creation. And again we must ask why? But if we look at the end of verse 10 it ends not with a period, but a comma. That means there is a pause here and the thought continues in the next verse. As ~~we~~ we look at it we see that "Every tongue should confess." This is what God would like, in fact, what He wants. But we know that not every tongue, or every person on earth today is willing to confess something about Jesus Christ. In particular, ~~the~~ many, many are not willing to confess what God set forth in and through Him. And what is that? "That Jesus Christ is Lord." Here again we see that the word or name, "LORD" comes ~~into~~ forth in its complete three meanings. It means first of all the Divinity of Jesus Christ, or God in the flesh. "Emmanuel," God with us. It means Jesus as the "Master." The one who leads and directs His followers. It means "Husband". The one to whom the Church is the Bride of. When we see these three meanings of the name "Lord" as God intended them to be, then we can understand why all of this and Paul answers it by saying, "To the glory of God the Father." All of this took place so God would be honored and glorified and not man. The creator glorified and having a place of honor, not the created.

All of this then does something for us, and Paul pointed it out in 2 Corinthians 8:9. We are told that because He threw off His glory and came to earth and became poor for our sakes, then we are made rich. But this is a richness not as the world sees it or knows it, but rather, a richness which the world cannot know or understand. That richness is to live eternally with Almighty God instead of being separated eternally from Him.

Each year we spend our time and effort and money to secure appropriate gifts for our friends and families.

(Illustration of Santa asking boy what he will give sister. Measles answer)

This dubious present and any others we may purchase are not really lasting
fts. But the gift that God has given to us through His Son Jesus Christ is
one which cannot be fashioned by human hands. Nor can it be bestowed by man.
It is only through faith that we receive it. ~~Many~~ Years go by and are followed
by still more years; century may follow century, yet, the gift of God remains
the same and never changes.

(Illustration of "Jesus came to bring us to heaven.")

Do you know and understand the true message of Christmas? Or are you perhaps
still caught up in all of the worldliness of this season? ^{Many people} ~~The world~~ around us
^{are} in so many ways ~~is~~ still searching frantically to find the joy and peace ~~is~~
which Christmas should bring. But they are searching for it in giving and
getting and parties and forced merriment. The answer is so simple that we
can understand how easily it eludes so many people. It is simply to accept
God's gift of love given through Jesus Christ and let Him have control of this
life we live.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania

Christmas Eve December 24, 1979

The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mr. Paul Harbison, Assistant
Mrs. Kitty Feder, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Julie Vargo and Diane Zavacky, Acolytes

+ + + + +
ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION - 11:00 P.M.

Prelude "Christmas Rhapsody" Wilson
*Processional Hymn No. 120 "Joy to the world!"

*Ascription

*Call to Worship "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

*Exhortation - Page 32 - P

*Confession - Page 32 ME

*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen

Lighting of Christmas Wreath

The Promise: -- Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7 - ME
Christmas Carol No. 102 "Hark, the herald angels sing"
(1st Stanza)

Christmas Carol No. 107 "It came upon the midnight clear"
(1st Stanza)

The Fulfillment: Luke 2: 1-20 - Paul
Christmas Carol No. 108 "O little town of Bethlehem".
(1st Stanza)

Christmas Carol No. 112 "O come, all ye faithful"
(1st Stanza)

Who's Who in the Pew ME
Announcements

Offering

Offertory "The Sleep of the Child Jesus" Smith
Communion Carol No. 105 "Angels we have heard on high"

*The Call to Communion - Page 33 - ME

*Eucharistic Prayer - Institution - Agnus Dei
Holy Communion

*Prayer of Thanksgiving -

*Doxology

Solo "Night of Nights" Cyndie Sybert
Christmas Meditation: "How Much?"

The Candlelighting

*Candlelight Carol "Silent Night" (On Bulletin)

*Benediction

*Response "Rejoice, Rejoice"

*Postlude "Carols of the Star" Smith

Silent Night! Holy Night!

1. Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and child, Holy Infant so
tender and mild;

Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night! Holy Night! Darkness flies, all is
light;

Shepherds hear the angels sing; Alleluia! hail the
King!

Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

3. Silent night! Holy night! Guiding Star, lend thy light!
See the eastern wise men bring Gifts and homage to
our King!

Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

4. Silent night! holy night! wondrous Star, lend thy light!
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

The Elders and Deacons will serve Communion as well
as Usher tonight.

Elder and Mrs. Charles Penar will be the Greeters at
the door this evening.

WHEN RECEIVING THE LIGHT, TILT UNLIT CANDLES TOWARD
THE ONE THAT IS ALREADY LIT.

Please fill out a Communion card so that our Church's
records are accurate. If Visitors will put either
the name and address of their church or Pastor on
the back, it will be forwarded.

William Ohl and Chuck Penar will be visiting the
Hospital this coming week.

Next Sunday - Schedule will be made out for the
Year Book. Each Elder and Deacon (old and new)
is expected to be here. A representative from the
different groups are expected to be here. This
includes Church School, Class representatives and
Fellowship group representatives. Meeting is schedu-
led for 2:00 P.M.

TWILA ZEVADA - PROVIDED LIGHTS

LUKE 2:11; STORY: "HOW MUCH?"

WHY NOT XMAS ALL YEAR??? WONDERFUL, BUT BIG "IF" "IF."
WUD ANYONE B WIL 2PAY PRICETAG??? HOW MUCH? HOW MUCH??

PERHAPS STORY WILL HELP:

1952, 16YR OLD GIRL 10 MI SUB ST. LOUIS, WOOLWORTH
MCY TRI NITES, & SAT ALL DAY - SOLS SOKS, LEND, MIDL RIBBNS, REC
PLANS, RECORDS OTHR END
LOUISE BOSS-DUST KEEP NEAT, THIS XMAS EVE THINK BOUT DANCE & DATE
THIS NITE DINNR DANC SENIOR CLAS & CLAS PRES 52 RED/WHITE CHEVY
HAD BOT RED RED VELV STRAPLES DRES, PD EA PAYDAY, PIKUP THAT DAY &
HANG BAK ROOM

FRENDS MOTHER LOAN FUR CAPE, & BOT RED HI HEEL SHOES
STOR CLOS 8:30 BUT XMAS EVE 6:30, chang bak room & EVRONE WAIT BUS
C HER GET INTO RED/WHIT CHEVY ALL EYES ON HER
PRINCE CHARM, BUT CHEVY BODY BY FISHER INSTED WHITE HORSE
BGIN COUNT MONEY DRAWER 6:20

C WOMAN ENTER & DRED WANT WAIT ON & SHE DID
NO MOR THAN 30, LOCK TIRED, THREDBARE, THINK STOR CLOS 8:30
ASK BOUT SOKS, 39¢ - CHEAPER?? 29¢ SED ONLY GOT MONEY THAT DAY
4KIDS NO HAVE XMAS - SHE TIRED, CIRCLS UNDR EYES, SHABBY COAT
TURN WOMAN DWN, START TAK MONEY TO BAK, TURN RND & C WOMN HURT/SA
OK LADY, BUT HURRY UP

2PR BOYS SOKS, 2PR GIRLS - CHEAP REC PLAYR, RUDOLPH/FROSTY RECS,
1GR RIBBN, 1 RED RIBBN PUT BAG & RUSH BAK STOR
CHANG CLOTHES, STEP OUT & STREET EMPTY, CLAS PRES OPN DOR & ASK,
WHER U BIN?

REV MOTOR & TAK OFF

3RD LITE C WOMAN NO IK TIRED, SHABBY, NOW WALK W/SPRING IN STEP
CUD C 4KIDS NEX DAY TRY NU SOX, RIBBNS, PLAY RUDOLPH/FROSTY
FELT LUMP IN THROAT & WARM ALL OVER
NO REMEMBR DANCE/DINNR, HOTEL ST. LOUIS, red/WHITE CAR,
ON & REMEM SHOWD LUV & HOW IT FELT

"HOW MUCH?" HOW MUCH DUZ XMAS COST??
NOT DOLLARS/CENTS BUT LUV

VSS 10-11-G GAV HIS ALL - HIMSELF FOR US
U & I MUSB WIL 2PAY THX PRICE OF LUV, THATS WAT IT COSTS,
THATS "HOW MUCH?"

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SASAMORE, PA. - DECEMBER 24, 1994

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP XMAS DAY 10:30 AM CHILDRENS PROGRAM,
11:00 AM REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE

NEW YEAR'S EVE DEC. 31, 8:30 PM RENEW WEDDING VOWS, GET
MARRIED, ETC.

LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS WREATH - *CHILDREN*

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

HYMN, SPECIAL MUSIC, *KATHY, RICHARD*
SCRIPTURE

CHRISTMAS STORY - "HOW MUCH?"

CANDLELIGHTING & CLOSING MUSIC/HYMN

"How Much

Luke 2F11

Serment expres=Why no Xmas all yr?
wonderful & cud B realty, but only IF, IF
Wud U B wil 2 pay pric? How Much U ask?
(Til us Dept stor & buy things monthly pay plan)
Xmas had pric tag, & remind us we no wil 2 pay it
Perhaps can sho by simpl story:
1952, & 16 yr girl suburb 10mi St. Lou & Woolworht
Mon, Fri, nites, all day Sat: countr sold socks 1end
ribbon middle, records, players other end
Louise had dust clean & best countr stor; Xmas rush
Helen think 24th, Senior dinner danc Hotel St. Lou
Senior clas pres & 52 red/white Chevy
2girlfrend help pik red velv, straples gown & pay 4
24th pik up, hung fur cape, red hi heel bak room
Store close 8:30, but Xmas Eve 6:30
Helen pictur scen outsid; peop wait bus, date arriv
walk out red velv dress, cape, hi heel 2 await
princ charm & carriag; all eyes on her
Actual Gen motor Chevy body by Fisher, but Hel drea
Fianly as day drag slow by Louise say, Lets go hom
left & count chang; all thru stor no sang key rin
Almost finish count C customer cum thru front dr
Oh no, not my countr, but she did & stan ther
Miss, Miss, no hear; how much socks? =39¢; None cheap
29¢; 1k lady hav danc go 2, we close, Xmas Eve
But 8:30? not 2nite & 4 first time saw lady
dark circles under eyes, pal tired, shabby coat,
long uncurlly hair
Sed, "But my children hav no presents, no money til
2nite
Serry lady, put money envel as 2frends walk by &
urge hurry.
Left countr, but strang turn bak & woman stil stan
look sad, hurt; go bak & say, OK lady but hurry up
2 pr boys, 2 pr girls, red, green ribbn, Rudolph, Frost
Record player; gav chang, bag & rush bak room 6:45
Street dsert, date push open door, Wher Bin?
Pul away B4 clos dr & 3rd lite saw woman no longr
pale, worn, tired, hug bag 2thin body walk on air.
Saw 4 happy children, try nu sox, ribbons hair, play
Rudolph & Frosty; felt warm all over, & lump throat
no rember danc, chevy, but nevr 4get wat mean sho
lov
Ho Much, How Much did it cost? How Much Xmas cost
U? no dolar/cents=luv, goodwill invest sum1 life?
This wat Xmas about=mean G luv enuf, saw creation
poor, hurt, tired & cam in Son(Vs 10-11) How Much?
His all; R U & I wil 2 pay pric keep Xmas all yr?

"How Much?"

Luke 2:11

The sentiment has been expressed many times, and I am sure you have heard it often, "Wouldn't it be nice if we could keep Christmas all year through."

This is a wonderful sentiment and quite frankly could be a reality for us. But we must preface this by using the word, "IF." "If" everyone would strive to be loving and forgiving toward one another. At Christmas we even feel a bit of love for our enemies, don't we?

To keep Christmas all year would truly be great. But would you be willing to pay the price? How much would it cost you ask? One department store has this all figured out for us. They have suggested the way to keep Christmas all year is to, "Buy things on our monthly payment plan." Then you see, you will be reminded of ~~what it costs~~ "How Much?" it costs. Christmas has a price tag connected to it and it can remind us quite often that are unwilling to meet the price. Perhaps I can best explain this with a simple story.

In the year 1952, a 16 year old high school girl worked in the Woolworth 5 & 10, in a suburb 10 miles from St. Louis. In those days the store had wooden floors and huge overhead fans, as well as individual cash registers at each counter. Helen worked Monday and Friday nights, and all day Saturday. The counter she worked at sold ~~men's and boys'~~ socks for men, boys, women girls and babies, at one end. In the middle were spools of ribbon along with a large brass cash register. Helen had to be careful because when the total key was pushed the cash drawer popped out quickly and hit her in the stomach. At the other end of the counter were rows and rows of phonograph records and record players. The woman she worked with had her dusting and straightening the counter all the time. As a result they had the neatest counter in the store. Louise was the woman's name and she tried to tell Helen how mad the Christmas rush would become as they got closer to the day. But Helen could only dream of the 24th, Christmas Eve, because that was the big Christmas Eve dinner-dance of the senior class. It was always held in the ball room of one of the big hotels in St. Louis. The senior class president had asked Helen to be his date, and to top it

he owned a brand new 1952 red and white Chevy.

No other girls that Helen knew worked in the store and they helped her pick out a red velvet strapless evening gown at the shop across the street. Each week she would take most of her pay check and pay it on the dress. Finally, on her lunch hour on the 24th she paid the last cent due on it, and took it with her to the store and hung it in the back room. She had borrowed a fur cape from one of her girl friend's mothers and the dress, and the cape along with her red high heeled shoes awaited closing time when her date would pick her up. The store closed at 8:30 each night during the Christmas season, but on Christmas Eve ~~the store was going to close at 6:00~~ all the stores in town were going to close at 6:30.

Helen could picture the scene now. Her date would pull up out front just shortly before 6:30. The employees from the store would gather on the corner to catch the bus and just a few minutes later she would step through the front door of the store absolutely stunning in her red velvet dress, fur cape, and red high heeled shoes. All eyes would be riveted upon her as she stepped into the beautiful ~~xxx~~ red and white carriage of her prince charming. Actually it was a Cheverolet, body by Fisher. But Helen dreamed about this all day long and the time just seemed to drag. because the customers were few and far between. Most people had completed their shopping at least a few days before and so most of the day was spent in re-arranging the counter.

Finally Louise said, "Kid, I think we can leave a few minutes early so get ready to count the money. " At 6:20 she walked up to Helen and said, "Merry Chrostmaz kid, let's go home." ~~Helen knew this meant she could begin to count the money in the~~ Louise walked away and Helen knew this meant she could begin to count the money in the drawer. She could hear the ring of cash registers all over the store as ~~xxx~~ at each counter someone pressed the no-sale key and the drawers were opened to be counted. Helen was busily engaged in counting her money and was just stuffing the bills into the brown manila envelope to seal it, when she happened to glance at the front door and a customer walked in. Her mind began to spin, "Oh no, she can't be coming to my counter. Not tonight of all nights." She

thought of what she would say to her. "Look lady, I have a dance to go to and the store is closed. After all it is Christmas Eve and we would like to live our lives too." Out of the corner of her eye she saw the lady getting closer and Oh no, wouldn't you guess, she stopped. The lady tried to get Helen's attention and finally said, "Oh miss, miss." But Helen pretended she didn't hear. Finally the lady asked more loudly, "Oh miss, how much are the socks?" Helen said, "39 cents lady" and kept counting change. "Do you have some cheaper?" "29 cents" Helen snapped looking at the clock. It was exactly ~~5:28~~ 6:28, two minutes to closing time.

"Let me see the 29 cent socks" the lady said. "Sorry lady, we're closed," Helen answered. "It's closing time, closing time," she repeated for emphasis.

"But it's not 8:30," the woman responded.

"No lady, it isn't. But tonight is Christmas Eve and we are closing at 6:30."

Finally Helen looked at the woman for the first time. It was then that she noted the dark circles under her eyes. The woman looked pale and tired, but was only about 30 or a little younger. Her hair fell uncurled on her shoulders and she had on a shabby gray coat.

She looked at Helen and said, "But my children don't have any presents and I didn't have any money until tonight." "Sorry lady," Helen said as she put the change in the envelope and began to walk toward the end of the counter. Her two girlfriends called to her to hurry as they passed by on the way to the back room. Helen left the counter and started toward the back room but for some strange reason she stopped and turned around and looked at the lady. ~~She~~ She still stood in the same place, but she had the saddest expression on her face and Helen just knew that she couldn't leave her standing like that. "All right lady, pick out what you want. But please hurry," she said. Her face lit up in a smile and she went from the socks to the ribbons, to the records and record players and back again. "Oh gosh," Helen sighed looking at the clock.

It seemed like an eternity until the lady picked out two pair of boys socks, two pair of girls socks, a half yard of red ribbon, a half yard of green; a cheap record player, along with a Frosty the Snowman, and Rudolph The Red Nosed

Reindeer records. Helen added it up took the 10 dollars from the lady, gave
for the change and practically threw her purchases at her. She glanced at the
clock as she ran for the back room. Almost 6:45. She practically ~~threw~~
tore her work clothes off and slipped into the red velvet dress. She ran out
of the store carrying ~~her~~ the fur cape and trying to make sure she was all
dressed. The streets were empty outside. The bus ~~had~~ come and gone and there
was just the red and white car sitting at the curb. At the sight of ~~her~~ Helen,
her date threw open the door and asked, "Where have you been," and then gunned t
the car ~~before she had a chance to shut the door.~~
Helen was wrapped up in her thoughts as they came to the third stoplight and it
was there that she saw the woman from the store once again. She no longer look-
ed tired and worn out. She was walking rapidly and she had a smile on her face
as she held the Woolworth package close to her thin body. The light snow which
had begun to fall, clung to her hair. Helen didn't see a tired worn, weary
other walking along that street. Instead, she saw 4 children the next morning
trying on new socks and putting red and green ribbons in their hair while they
listened to Frosty and Rudolph on a cheap record player. She suddenly felt warm
and strange all over and a big lump crept into her throat.
She never remembered the dance, or her date, or the red and white 1952 Chevy.
But the girl named Helen ~~never~~ will never forget what it means to make
someone happy.

"How Much?" "How Much" did it cost you say? How much has this Christmas cost
you? I don't mean in dollars and cents. I mean in love and good will you have
invested in someone else's life. That is what Christmas is all about. It means
that God loved His creation enough that He saw beyond the tiredness, the weariness
of this life that makes us look shabby when compared to His rich creation.
It means that He showed us what was available to us even though it meant taking
time from His schedule to do so. It meant that when He said to the world,
"Behold I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, For unto
you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."
that meant that He was willing to make us happy by giving us His complete love

"How Much?" "How Much" did it cost? It cost Him His all, His very sacrifice of Himself on a cross. Are you and I willing to pay the price to keep Christmas all year? We can and we should be, but it means that we in turn must be willing to pay the price of love ~~in return~~ for and to our fellowman, and to God in return for the love He first gave to us.

Continued

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Butler, Pennsylvania
First Sunday After Christmas December 30, 1979
The Rev. Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Mr. Paul Harbison, Liturgist
Mrs. Kay Morris, Organist
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophone
Mr. Lloyd Link and Mrs. Ginger Harbison,
Youth Choir Directors
Julie Vargo and Diane Zavacky, - Acolytes
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "O Jesu So Meek, O Jesu So Kind" Hokanson
*Processional Hymn No. 118 "The first Nowell"
*Ascription - Choral Amen
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) "Eternal Father, teach us in
the days of this year to discover the preciousness of
time. Keep us from squandering our hours in senseless
thought and useless activities. Help us through good
books, clean conversation, and creative action to so
number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom, and
a life devoted to thy reconciling ministry in the world;
through Jesus Christ. Amen."
*Kyrie (Choir, Congregation and Pastor)
*Assurance of Pardon - Choral Amen
*Praise
*Pastor: 'O Lord open our lips
*People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise
*Doxology No. 551
Who's Who in the Pew
Announcements
Concerns, Joys and Prayer Requests
Hymn No. 117 "O thou joyful"
Call to Prayer
Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: And with thy spirit
Pastor: Let us Pray
Prayer and Prayer Response
Offering
Offertory "Children of the Heavenly Father" Hokanson

Anthem: "Sing Hallelujah" Linda Stassen
Sung by the Youth Choir
Scripture: 2 Chronicles 29: 1-11
Sermon: "CLEAN SWEEP"
Prayer and Lord's Prayer
*Hymn No. 104 "Angels, from the realms of glory"
*Benediction
*Three Fold Amen
*Postlude "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" Morris
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Lovely Flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tait and Family "To the Glory of God"
Serving as Ushers today are: *Alvin Tait, Mike Nazaruk,
Gottlob Kradel, Roy Andrews and James McClymonds.
Elder and Mrs. Mike Nazaruk will greet the Congregation
and Visitors at the door this morning.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Betty Carney and
Beth Burns.
Mid Diefenderfer and Bea Tait will be visiting the
Hospital this week.
Our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Guy Armstrong, Family and
Friends. Guy passed away on Wednesday. Their address
is Hacienda Village, 3751 S. W. 31st St. Ft. Lauderdale,
Fla. 33312.
We have all of January open for Altar Flowers, Jan, 6,
13, 20, and 27th. Please let Bea know if you are
interested in any of these 4 Sundays.
Tonight - 6:30 - Senior High Youth Meeting
Tues. - 7:00 - Basketball and Volleyball with Bill Ohl.
Wed. - 7:30 - Church Council Meeting
Thurs. - The Newsletter will be published - Please
have all material ready by Wednesday.
TODAY - 2:30 - IMPORTANT MEETING TO SET UP THE SCHEDULE
AND COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR BOOK. ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
ARE ASKED TO BE HERE (OLD AND NEW). Heads of all
organizations or representatives are expected to be
here (this includes Sunday School Groups and also
Women's Fellowship and Youth Groups.

WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.
All monies received after today will be credited to
1980.
Please get all reports in to the office as soon as possible

VSS 6-9=WAT HAPN BCUZ OF UNGODLY PREDECESSRS
 VSS 10-11=COV TWEEN THEM & GOD, WORSHIP GOD
 THIS ACTUL REFERENC BAK 2VS #3END -OPN HOU8 & DOORS
 WORSH ONCE AGIN PART OF DAILY LIV8 OF TH/PEOPL
 I LK WORSW W/U & 2C U EACH SUNDAY
 IT MS THIS HAS AN IMPORT PLAC IN UR LIF OR U WUINT B HERE
 HERE WE CUM 2FIND REFUG FR/STORMS OF LIF
 HEZEKIAH CALLED THE RELIGIOUS LEDRS 2PUT G'S HOU8 IN ORDR
 ISAIAH WROT=CHAP 55:6-7
 WEN WE SEEK G, HE HEARS & ACTS IN OUR LIV8
 BUT HEZ IS PT CUT TH/ACTINS OF THER PREDECESSRS NOT ONLY EFFECTD
 THEM, BUT THEY EFFECTD EVRONE
 OUR ACTINS MAY DETRM WAT HAPN OUR LIV8,
 BUT THEY ALSO REFLEC UPON LIV8 OF OTHERS
 WAT WE DO IN OUR LIV8 WIL REFLEC UPON OUR CHILD8N, GR-CHILD8N
 (ILUS NURSE & SICK BCUZ OF ABORTIN)
 THATS HOW IT HAS STARTD-NOW WE HAV PEO MURDR ABORTIN PEOPL
 LAWS BE PASSED PERMIT SUICID, ASK 2B ABL PUT ELDRLY AWAY, ETC.
 AS WE STEP IN2 NU YR WE HAV OP 2GET SELVS RT W/GOD
 LET US DETRM TAK STEP OF FAITH & TURN EVRTH OVR 2 G'S CARE
 LET US ASK HIM 2CONTROL OUR LIV8 EA DAY & LEAD US THRU THIS
 NEX YR

SCRIP: 2 CHRON 29:1-11; SERM: "CLEAN SWEEP"
 (ILUS MAN, NO GRACE, LEFTOVR8 BLES MANY TIMES)
 AS START NU YR, FIND MANY LEFTOVR8 NEED 2B DISPOS OF
 ALL WANT START NU YR W/CLEAN SLATE
 MUS" START 2DAY & NO PUT OFF
 (EY" =PROBS, NO WORK AT COMPOUND PROB & GET WORS - MUS DISPOS OF
 HAV = "CLEAN SWEEP"
 K HEZEKIAH WAS SUCH A MAN - MET PROBS HED-ON & HELP HIS PEOPL
 WE TOL IN SCRIP HEZ GUD MAN/GUD KING
 BUT WAT WER HIS ROOTS???
 2 CHRON 28:16-19=TRUST IN OTHR NATINS & LDR8 INSTD OF GOD
 VSS 20-21=GAV 2KING OF ASSYRIA BUT KING NO HELP HIM
 VSS 22-25=WICKEDNESS OF KING AHAZ
 VSS 26-27=NO BURY W/KIN S OF ISRAEL - DISGRACE
 WAT BOUT HEZEKIAH??? - 29:1-2
 HOW HE CUM DO RITE???
 VSS 1A=SHE MENTIN 2 KY 18:1 as ABI SHE MUS HAV RAISD SON RITE
 HER GODLY INFLUENC MOV SON IN RITE DIRECTIN OF DESTROY WAT
 FATH8 HAD DUN
 LOOK AT WAT HE DID FIRST
 VS 3=IN TH/1ST YR, IN TH/1ST MONTH
 HE WAST NO TIME GET START
 VSS 4-5=CLEANUP OF TEMPLE

PRELUDE
 GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

YELW COAT 42 - JEAN WILL BRING
 8 PNER TO WHATEVER - BLACK W/FOR

*HYMN
 PRAYER/OFFERING
 *DOXOLOGY
 PASTORAL PRAYER
 HYMN
 SCRIPTURE: 2 CHRONICLES 29:1-11
 SERMON: "CLEAN SWEEP" - ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER, 12/30/79
 *HYMN
 *BENEDICTION COMMUNION
 *POSTLUDE

FLAIRE
 UWSIOLEN - RILL
 CLARA BELL
 FLORENCE
 ELOA

"Clean Sweep"

Scrip: 2 Chron 29:1-11; Text: 2 Chron 29:11

(Illus man no grace, leftovers blessed many time)

No tr who R cum 2end yr leftovr need dispos

Do ignor, or sweep undr rug? Or deal & start rt?

Mos hav discover ignor porb no solv, usual compound

pr & mak mor difi deal with

Also imagin discover ~~xxxxxxx~~ meet hedon
dispos 1nce 4all

Makes 4 easier eat, sleep, living & mak Clean Sweep

Scrip sho man did this=Hezekiah & sed B4 gud man

But no cum naturl had 2work at it

if patern self aftr dad=K Ahaz, sly, cunning

But 2import thing hap 2 him & no found in Scrip

vs 1=Mothr=godly woman, no agre husb & influ son rt

also Ahaz 2busy B sucess no tim 4son & wif was

2nd thing=Hez determin no B lik father

Gud influ strong his lif read=vs 3=1st yr, 1st mont

no wast tim get start & Hez bent mak Clean Sweep

vs 3b=ope dorrs, saw no entranc 2God & this gud Bgi

I sur mos U cum Sun, Sun 2B fed(I trus this so)

hav hungr 4 spirit food, lik phys hungr & this

G want 4 all creation

But many peop no want this & Ch jus 2get money etc

" " cum 2C Ch as refug storm of lif, get help

vs 4=call 4th men 2do job

vs 5=set selvs aside, apart from ordinary

Had deep concern C G's hous bak in ordr & purify

apply not only Ch, but selvs as well

P say=Kno not U templ of G?

Shud B work clean up act & get rt with Alm G

vs 8=pt wat evident 2them

vs 9=pt out wat mite overluk & say wat we do not

only affect us, but futur gens & start smal, insig

(Illus unwanted babies, nurse sik, dr=I nevr look)

All start get rid unwanted preg, herd yesterday bout

license 2hav children

ther peop no shud hav children, but superhumans?

other movs=ERA, Civil Liberties, Plea Bargain etc

We can C Clean Sweep need 2get bak 2basics

G want us lk livs & determ wher need sweep & tim

2 do so is now

Not only step Nu Yr, but Nxx decade

All oportuns avail get selvs rt with G

Why not determ rt here & now tak step fatith &

plac all hands G & let lead, direct thru nex yr

wat say & do? Let us mak determ 2day

"Clean Sweep"

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 29:1-11

Text: 2 Chronicles 29:11

(Illustration of father not saying grace because leftovers blessed several times)
No matter who we are, we come to the end of ~~the~~ each year with leftovers which need to be disposed of. ~~Ex~~ Do we merely ignore them, or do we sweep them under the rug, or do we deal with them once and for all and start the New Year with a clean slate?

I think that we have all ~~found~~ probably discovered at one time or another that to ignore a problem does not solve it. It usually compounds the problem and makes it more difficult to deal with. I also imagine that almost all of us have discovered that to merely brush the problems aside, also delays the answers needed to deal with them. I would also imagine that most of us have discovered that the best way to handle problems is to meet them head-on and dispose of them and then they are out of the way once and for all. This makes for easier eating, sleeping, and living. This is what we call, "Making A Clean Sweep."

Today I would like to speak about this particular issue and next week I would like to share a formula we can all use for all of the next year.

Our Scripture this morning is a part of the life of a man who met the problems he faced head-on and how it helped his people. The man of course was King Hezekiah. We said several times that Hezekiah was a good king and a good man. But he didn't come by this naturally. He had to work at it. If he had patterned himself after his Father he would have turned out just as evil and cunning as King Ahaz did. But I believe that we can picture two very important things about Hezekiah which are not given to us anywhere in Scripture. The first is the mention of his mother's name and we read this in verse 1. We know only from this that she was the daughter of Zechariah, of whom we know very little. But we do know that Abijah, or Abi as she is mentioned in 2 Kings, must have been a godly woman and one who was not in complete agreement with her husband King Ahaz. She probably saw what was taking place during the reign of Ahaz and she must have been an influence for good in her son's life for him to turn

out as he did. We could also say that in all probability he was so busy tending becoming a famous and powerful ruler that he neglected the raising of his son and this made it possible for ~~Abijah~~ Abijah to be a good influence in her sons life.

The second thing not spelled out in this scripture is that Hezekiah must have been determined not to follow in his father's footsteps. The opposite is most often true. The olds saying is, "Like father, like son," indicating of course that the son will follow in his father's footsteps. But sometimes the son is able to be led in the direction where he sees his father in a true light and if the father is evil or does evil, the son will not follow in his footsteps. This again must be to the credit of Abijah, but also to the strong will of the man himself.

This good influence must have been so strong in his life that we read, "In the first year of his reign," but not only in the "first year," but also, "In the first month." He wasted no time in getting started. Hezekiah was bent on making a "Clean Sweep."

~~He brought in the priests and the Levites, those who would work, and he spoke to them about what was to be done.~~

The first thing he did was that he, "Opened the doors of the house of the Lord, and repaired them." This meant that he saw that the entrance to the Lord's House was not only repaired and made to open, but the Lord's House was made a part of the lives of his people. This is a good beginning for anyone. I am sure ^{THE REASON YOU COME} ~~that you come~~ here Sunday after Sunday, (and I trust I am saying that for most of you), is because you seek to be fed. You have a hunger to get spiritual food just as you have a hunger each day for physical food. This is what God wants for all of His creation. But you and I know that this is not always the case for many people. Many of them feel and believe they can live without the Lord's house. To them it is just a way for the Church to make money. Some of them may be members of your own family. But we need to make this hunger evident to them and when they discover that this food is necessary for them, they throw off all pretense of thinking of the church in the wrong dimension.

and see it in its proper light. A place of refuge where we receive help for the storms of life.

The second thing Hezekiah did was to call forth those he knew would be willing to work at cleaning up the House of the Lord, vs 4. He called upon them to "sanctify" themselves, vs 5. This meant they were to set themselves apart from the ordinary work and to devote themselves to, "carry forth the filthiness out of this holy place." He had a deep concern to see God's House placed back in order and purified. This should apply not only to the Church Sanctuary itself, but to our own physical bodies as well. Paul tells us, "Know ye not that ye are the Temple of God?" We should be working at cleaning up our act and keeping it in a proper relationship with Almighty God.

Hezekiah points out to the people not only what their forefathers have done, but also what effect it has had on those who have come after them. He points out in verse 8 what was evident to all of them. But he also points out what many of them had perhaps overlooked in verse 9. You see, what he is saying is that our actions do not always just affect us, they affect other people as well. We cannot just go about doing our own thing and expect that we are the only ones involved. What we do affects our children, our grandchildren and so on. But all of this starts out with something small and insignificant. At least it seems insignificant and gradually grows into something big.

(Illustration of Abortion, getting rid of unwanted babies)

That's how it has all started. Now there are movements underfoot to dispose of those who are not completely mentally stable. What they refer to as retarded. Just yesterday I was listening to what a professor is advocating regarding the licensing of people before they are able to have children. I realize as you do that there are people who have children who shouldn't. But does man have the right to genetically change everything so only super humans are allowed to live? You see, just getting rid of some unwanted pregnancies has opened the gates to more than we ever wanted. We can name others as well.

The Equal Rights Movement, Plea bargaining, So called Civil Liberties and so on.

In many of these instances we can see that a "Clean Sweep" is in order. God wants us to look at our lives and to determine where we need to sweep and the time to do so is now.

We are not only ready to step into a new year, but a brand new decade as well. All of the opportunities are available to us to get our selves right with God. Why not determine right here and now to take that step of faith and place everything in God's hands and let Him lead and direct this next year in what we say and do? Let us make that determination today.









Ralph C. Link
153 Keck Road
Sarver, Pa. 16055
(412) 352-1103

Born: April 9, 1929, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Married: December 15, 1951
Wife: Shirley Margaret Neill
Born: December 8, 1930, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Children: Ralph Dale Link, born May 11, 1955, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Lloyd Alan Link, born May 28, 1958, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nancy Lynn Link, born March 15, 1961, Butler, Pa.

SCHOOLING:

Graduated from Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 1947

Lay Ministry School, Penn West Conference of United
Church of Christ, September 1965 to May 1969

Commissioned Lay Minister June 1969

Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.,
September 1970

Graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary May 1974

Ordained to Christian Ministry March 10, 1974

PASTORATES:

As Lay Minister: short term, 1 month or less in
various churches 1965 to 1967

Emlenton Lamartine Charge of United Church of Christ
1967 to 1969

Short term in various churches 1970 until Seminary
entrance July 1970

July 1970 to December 1973 Student Pastor at Trinity
Charge, New Bloomfield, Duncannon, Pa., Penn Central
Conference, United Church of Christ

December 1973 to present, St. Paul's United Church of
Christ, Butler, Pa., Penn West Conference, United
Church of Christ

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

OF

Ralph C. Link

I am the youngest of five children. I was born just prior to the onset of the Depression. Our family was very poor. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was a very religious person who was searching for the Lord. During my childhood she did her best to teach me the things of the Lord. Later in life she came to a personal relationship with Him.

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church where salvation by grace alone was not preached nor taught. I knew all about Jesus, what He did, how He lived, His miracles, His death and resurrection, but I didn't know Him personally.

My life had many ups and downs and all the while I was attending church and striving with my good works to please God. At a very low point in my life when we were deeply in debt and my wife and three children were all ill, I came to the crossroads. I watched a Billy Graham Crusade on television from some distant city and the message he preached seemed to be directed right at me. I wrestled with making that commitment to Christ, but didn't. The next afternoon and evening at work on the 4 to 12 shift I came to the conclusion that I needed to make that commitment to Christ. It seemed like there was no other choice if life was to have any meaning. That night when I came home from work at 1:00 A.M., I laid face down on the living room floor and told God that I couldn't live my life in my own strength and I accepted the gift of salvation from my Savior Jesus Christ. My life has never been the same.

Through several meaningful circumstances I was called by God to serve Him in the Christian Ministry and to help spread that wonderful message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful and rewarding time it has been and I give Him all the praise for my salvation and the opportunity to serve Him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OF

Ralph C. Link

I believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired inerrant Word of God. I believe the Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and it is the final authority for the Christian faith and life.

I believe in one God, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ that He is true God and true man. I believe that He was born of the Virgin Mary, that He lived in sinless life, that He performed the miracles recorded in Scripture, that He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, that He bodily arose from the dead, that He ascended on high where He is at the right hand of Almighty God as our intercessor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and that He comes and indwells each believer at the time of conversion. I believe that He lives in each believer to lead, to instruct, and to convict so that a believer may live a more godly life.

I believe that through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and through His resurrection, this is the only ground for justification and salvation for all who receive Him. A Lord and Savior and to such as receive Him, they are born of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

I believe water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church but are not means of salvation.

I believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, for the believer to resurrection of life and joy with the Lord, for the unbeliever to resurrection of judgement and everlasting punishment.